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SARLL: MY DEBT TO ROEDER

AND

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE FOR ALTINTOP

PLUS

CUP, TROPHY AND VASE FIXTURES

IT'S HOME COMFORTS AT LAST FOR THE WANDS

ARM-WRESTLE: Cray Wanderers and SE Dons drew as the former began life at their new home, Flamingo Park – see p10
PICTURE: Matt Bristow

MAXI-MILLIONS!



ON THE MOVE: Skipper Max Kilman has left Wolves for West Ham
PICTURE: Alamy

Magpies pocket £4m as Kilman joins Hammers

By John Lyons

MAIDENHEAD United have the chance to become one of Non-League's big-hitters – after landing a £4m jackpot from the sale of Wolves captain Maximilian Kilman to West Ham!

The National League side sold the defender to Wolves in 2018 for £40,000, but shrewdly put a sell-on clause in the deal. It was widely reported to have initially been 20 per cent, but was renegotiated to half that when it became clear that the Hammers were eager to wrap up a deal with their Premier League rivals.

The Magpies, who recently gained approval for more than 500 new seats at their York Road home, will bag around £4m after the 27-year-old completed his £40m move

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PHIL BROWN: THE GAME'S THE SAME AT EVERY LEVEL

THE NON-LEAGUE PAPER ON SUNDAY/MONDAY

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ACE JAKE ENJOYS PERFECT ENDING



HAPPY DAYS: Jake Cass loved his time at Enfield Town
PICTURE: ETFC

By John Lyons

ENFIELD Town striker Jake Cass says it was an 'incredibly difficult decision' to hang up his boots – but that he will always have magical memories of his Non-League career.

The powerful forward, who turned 31 on Thursday, has decided to call time for a couple of reasons. Firstly, he now lives in Dubai and secondly, he needs further knee surgery.

He told *The NLP*: "I travel a lot with work and in my life, and I no longer live in the UK. I started a business four-and-a-half years ago, a tech and media agency, and I've put blood, sweat and tears into it.

"I have an unorthodox lifestyle and travel a lot, but I've always tried to play 30-40 games a season.

"Anyone who has followed my journey knows I've had some bad injuries and I now need a knee op. My meniscus has two separate tears and there's a cyst as well. I'm not sure that I would be able to play again."

Mountain

At least Cass was able to bow out in style having played a part in Enfield Town's promotion to National League South via the play-offs. That looked a long-shot when he ruptured his Achilles in the second game of the season.

"It was a mountain to climb, but somehow I managed to come back for the last month or two of the season," he said. "I was hoping for a fairytale ending and fortunately we were able to finish with promotion."

It meant a lot to Cass for a host of reasons.

"I knew it would probably be my last year in Non-League football," he explained. "I had never been promoted despite a 12-13 year career. It was also coming back from the injury and wanting to win promotion in honour of Dave Bryant (the club's founding chairman who died from cancer in March).

"It was also about playing for Enfield Town. It's a relatively local club for me and where I really found my footballing home. Taking into account all those factors, I don't think it could have been scripted any better."

Cass packed plenty into his career, including playing at all the Steps from 1 to 4. He's represented the likes of Braintree Town, Chelmsford City, Bishop's Stortford, Maldon & Tiptree and Chesham United along the way, making life as uncomfortable as possible for opposition defenders.

"Non-League football is a really special place with many, many special people, including volunteers, fans, supporters and players," said Cass, who scored against Welsh side Llantwit Major on his European debut in the Fenix Trophy in March.

Togetherness

"You can be on your way home from an away match on a Tuesday night, there are motorway closures and you get home at one or two in the morning. You think 'why do I bother?'.

"Then you're at home on the Saturday, it's a full house and you score the winner. There's the adulation and the emotion you go through in the game, and you see what it means to people in the bar afterwards. There's a great feeling and togetherness.

"I've played for some very special football clubs, I've enjoyed it pretty much everywhere and found my home at Enfield Town."

While Cass reflects on his highs and lows, including fighting back from an ACL injury, he hasn't entirely ruled out stepping out on a football pitch again.

"If I can sort my knee out and get a level of fitness I would expect from myself, you never know," he added.

"In an ideal world I would like to get playing in Dubai, but I would give a lot to play one more game in an Enfield Town shirt, even if it was just a low-key midweek cup game.

"My time in Non-League has been a whirlwind – I've loved every minute of it."

MY BIG MOVE IS CHAMPION!



Altintop lands at Larne...

By John Lyons

IF YOU had told Baris Altintop in December that he would soon get the chance to play Champions League football, he would have thought you were crazy.

But that is the mouthwatering prospect for the man who skippered Braintree Town to National League South play-off glory at the end of last season.

While the Iron look forward to life back in Non-League's top tier, Altintop has landed a dream move to Northern Irish champions Larne, who have the little matter of a Champions League first qualifying round tie against Latvian side FC RFS on the horizon.

Indeed, the first leg takes place in Riga on Wednesday before the sides meet again at Inver Park the following Wednesday, with the victors taking on Norwegian side FK Bodo/Glimt.

It caps a stunning turnaround for centre-back Altintop, who left Dartford's National League South struggles behind him shortly before Christmas to return to Braintree. And he freely admits Champions League football had never been on his radar.

"When you're playing National League and National League South football, you don't think that one day you'll play Champions League football," he told *The NLP* ahead of his new side's Charity Shield encounter against Cliftonville on Friday.

"It's not even something that crosses your mind. When something like this happens you think 'wow, my life has changed'. I've gone from Conference South to Champions League. Football is mental!"

The 23-year-old, who has also featured for AFC Sudbury, Bury Town, King's Lynn and Leiston, is relishing his moment in the spotlight in Europe's elite club competition. "It's a boy's dream," he said. "You see all the big players on the telly playing Champions League football. Everyone wants to play Champions League.

Excited

"When I was told about that, it was definitely a selling point. I didn't expect to have Champions League football on my CV and my family are all really excited.

"We were at the ground yesterday having a run-through. The Champions League music came on and it was like I was about to watch someone else! It's a bit surreal."

However long the European adventure lasts, Altintop already believes he has made a great choice in joining Larne.

"The move came out of nowhere," he said. "The manager saw I was a free agent and gave me a call. He said they'd fly me out and wanted to sign me. I asked if I could come and have a look at the facilities and everything went well.

"It's a really, really good club. It's full-time training and the programme is really good. It's set up like a League One or Two club.

"They've won the league back-to-back and are now playing Champions League football with a really good chance to get to the second qualifying round."

While Altintop prepares for his new challenge, he will keep an eye out for the fortunes of his old club. He was glowing in his praise of boss Angelo Harrop following last season's promotion and will wait to see how the manager moulds a new squad for the coming campaign.

"Angelo brought me back and made me captain, which was a big thing for me," said the defender. "It was massive credit to him that we got promoted.

"It's virtually a completely new squad so hopefully they gel together and carry on what we were doing. I want to see them do well – they are my English team."

ON THE UP: Baris Altintop celebrates promotion with Braintree and, inset, Larne fans enjoy their title
PICTURE: Ian Christy

HARRISON EYES EURO DREAM AS TNS GET SET

WELSH PREVIEW

By Rob Cole

HARRISON McGahey is hoping to swap the National League for the Champions League this week with a competitive debut for Welsh champions The New Saints at Park Hall on Tuesday night (7pm kick-off).

The perennial JD Cymru Premier league winners will be seeking a trip into the second qualifying round for the fifth time in 17 attempts when they host FK Decic, who are making their debut in the competition after winning the Montenegrin First League for the first time.

You have to go back five years for the last time they won a round, but after such a dominant domestic season, which saw them complete the treble, they will head back into Europe full of confidence.

The recruitment of McGahey from Oldham Athletic will strengthen their squad.

The 28-year-old defender arrives with more than 200 Football League games under his belt at Championship, League One and Two level, as well as a season in the National League.

A former Liverpool, Blackburn Rovers and Blackpool academy product, he made his Championship debut for the latter while still a scholar.

He then moved on to Sheffield United, Rochdale, Scunthorpe United and Oldham.

"It was the prospect of playing Champions League football that made me join TNS. It's something different, something I've never experienced before," said McGahey.

"I'm really looking forward to it and I spoke to Jordan Williams, who I played with at Rochdale, and he said it was a good set-up and a good club.

"I also spoke to the manager, Craig Harrison, and I liked what he had to say.

"The players obviously enjoy it here because they win most weeks and that's what I'd like to be doing."

Tuesday night's game against FK Decic will be the 77th game for TNS in European competition and their 41st in the Champions League – and their first against Montenegrin opposition.

To date they have won ten and drawn five in the top-flight.

Victory in the first qualifying round would earn them a clash with Hungarian champions Ferencvaros in the second qualifying round.

They had three players in the Hungarian squad at the Euros this summer in Denes Dibusz, Endree Batka and Barnabas Varga.

If TNS don't go through, they will meet either Bulgarian side Ludogorets Razgrad or Dinamo Batumi of Georgia in the UEFA Conference League second qualifying round.

That tournament also includes the other Welsh representatives – Connah's Quay Nomads, Bala Town and Caernarfon Town.

For Richard Davies' Caernarfon side, it will be their debut in Europe, with a home clash against Northern Ireland side Crusaders at Nantporth Stadium, Bangor on Thursday (6.30pm).

The Belfast-based side, seven-time winners of the NIFL Premiership, are European stalwarts and have progressed to the second qualifying round in the previous two campaigns.

Whoever comes out on top in that tie will face a second qualifying round tie against Polish giants Legia Warsaw.

The Nomads head to Slovenia to face NK Bravo on Thursday night.

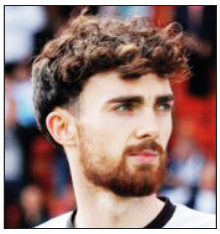
Their hosts were only promoted to the Slovenian top-flight in 2019 and are competing in Europe for the first time in their history after finishing fourth last season.

The winners will meet HSK Zrinjski Mostar of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the second qualifying round.

Meanwhile, Bala Town are back in Europe for the first time in two years and they will face Estonian side Paide Linnameeskond on Thursday.

Colin Caton's side will have home advantage in the first leg with the game being played at Park Hall, in Oswestry (7pm).

The winners will meet either Icelandic side Stjarnan or Northern Ireland's Linfield in the second qualifying round.



BIG MOVE: Ed Francis

FAN-LED MODEL A FIT FOR FRANCIS

By Jon Couch

ED FRANCIS says the opportunity of continuing to work under a fan-owned environment was a pivotal factor in deciding to join Exeter City.

Francis, 24, joined the League One Grecians on Thursday on a two-year deal – with a club option of a third – from Gateshead.

And the former Harrogate Town and Notts County man said the prospect of working under a similar ownership model to that at the International Stadium helped make up his mind to up sticks from Tyneside to Devon.

"I'm very happy to be here, I'm really excited for the new season and I can't wait to get started," said Francis, who played 53 games in two seasons for the Heed, 14 as captain.

"I first heard about the interest about a month ago and I was desperate to get the deal over the line, and I'm very pleased.

"Myself and Gary (Caldwell, manager) had a very good, honest conversation about the club and how it was fan owned, with the connection to the fans. That is something I had last year with Gateshead, so that really suits me.

"We spoke about how he wants me to play and where I fit in, and it all really appealed to me."

Caldwell said: "Ed is a left-footed player who is technically very gifted and we see him as someone who has a big future as our number six. Most importantly, he was desperate to sign for us."

Francis wasn't the only Gateshead player to leave the International Stadium for the EFL this week.

Striker Marcus Dinanga was also heading south after joining National League play-off winners Bromley.

The 27-year-old arrives at Hayes Lane following a successful season for the Heed, netting 20 goals in 42 league appearances.

His move comes four years after Dinanga first moved into the EFL with Stevenage, before spells at Matlock Town, AFC Telford and Hartlepool.

A TOP HOP I'LL NEVER FORGET!



BREATHTAKING! The impressive view at The Stanks

DIARY OF A GROUNDHOPPER

SATURDAY, JUNE 29TH

LAST BOAT TO TURKEY 14
GOLDSTONE FC 1

HAVE you been? You must have been there? Why haven't you been there?! Call yourself a Groundhopper?!

All of the comments over the years relate to one world famous venue; one that has been on my radar for an age: The Stanks.

To be honest, the name doesn't sound inviting but looking at pictures of the venue makes one's mouth water copiously.

During the lull in 'normal' games during summer months, I have been keeping an eye on the Berwick Charities Cup Facebook page. The Cup runs for two months in June and July every year and can help to fill a gap (along with the KHALSA Football Federation Tournaments) for desperate Hoppers.

Looking through fixtures for Saturday, I am amazed to find that Berwick Rangers are at home on Saturday at 3.00pm. I already know there's a Stanks Cup tie in the evening less than two miles from Shielfield Park.

A four-hour drive brings The Fox and me to the fantastic Shielfield Park. I've been here before, so know what to expect: a typical 'Fourth Division' Stadium with a speedway track thrown in for good measure. It's a beauty!

It turns out to be a competitive pre-season encounter with Bonnyrigg Rose running out deserved winners by three goals to nil. The programme (£2.50) is a superb issue: most unexpectedly so. And then it's off for a fish and chip hunt in the scenic town of Berwick.

We pull up at The Stanks. The setting is truly breathtaking! The ground is nestled below Berwick's Medieval ramparts. One goal and a touchline butt right up to the rampart walls. The pitch is deserted apart from a few kids enjoying the evening sun.

Gradually, a few players arrive and start to warm up. The yellows of Goldstone are mostly youths/kids, while Last Boat To Turkey are adults. It's literally going to be men against boys. I sit on a bench on one of the city walls where I can see the sea in the distance. Just before kick-off, I am joined by a raucous band of Bonnyrigg Rose fans, who were also at the friendly game this afternoon. I have a chat with them and end up being invited to Rose for a game. "Try Spartans. It might get a bit tasty!"

The Rose fans create quite an atmosphere for this one-sided tie. Down below, at pitch level, a family-based crowd assembles. An ice cream van is a welcome addition to the scene.

Despite taking it easy for the first ten minutes LBTT are nine goals up at the break! Goldstone are game lads: they lost a previous group game 22-0 and keep plugging away here.

The biggest cheer of the evening comes when Goldstone score a goal! Yes, they are 12 behind at that point, but no one seems to care.

This is one of the most joyous football matches I've ever had the pleasure of being at. When the collecting tin comes round at the end, a hefty donation is well deserved.

Have you been? YES (and you definitely should, too)!!





PRE-MATCH INFO: 10, WELCOME: 9.5, FACILITIES: 1, FOOD: 0, CHARM: 10, PROGRAMME: 0, HOME TEAM RESPECT: 10, HOME FANS: 10, MATCH: 9, OVERALL TRIP: 10, OFFICIALS: 10, ATT: 102

WITNEY REBORN AND LOOKING TO CREATE NEW LEGACY

ONE OF Non-League's most famous names, who dissolved in 2013, are back for the new season.

Witney Town have been reborn for 2024-25 and will play in the Oxfordshire Senior League.

Founded as Witney FC in 1885, the club were known as Witney United and Witney Town AFC before adopting the name Witney Town in 1922.

The club's most successful period was in the 1970s and 80s when they competed in the Southern League Premier Division, finishing fifth in 1983-84.

Sadly, they folded in 2001, but a phoenix club arose under the name Witney United in 2002 and obtained the lease of the former club's ground.

The club brought back the Witney Town name in 2011, but again they dissolved during the 2012–13 season while playing in the Hellenic League Premier Division.

Now, it's third time lucky for the club, who are back at Step 7, with a new manager in place, and looking to climb the pyramid once more.

The club said: "We strive to build a sustainable legacy that goes beyond victories on the pitch, emphasising community engagement and ensuring a lasting impact for generations to come."

MAGPIES' JACKPOT AS MAX MOVES



NEXT STEP: Max Kilman has left Wolves to join fellow Premier League side West Ham PICTURE: Alamy

➤ Continued from Front

to West Ham yesterday morning.

It gives them the financial muscle to compete with their National League rivals and become a real force in Non-League's top flight under manager – and Hammers legend – Alan Devonshire.

In a statement yesterday, chairman Peter Griffin expressed his delight at an outcome they could only have dreamed of when they sold Kilman half-a-dozen years ago.

"Ultimately this is a fantastic outcome for the club which will benefit from one of the largest, if not the largest, transfer payments an English Non-League club has ever received, which is something to celebrate," he said.

"This is testament to the hard work of Alan Devonshire and his coaching team past and present, as well our Academy programme which every year is developing players which move into our first team squad.

"This is a momentous day for Maidenhead United FC, which gives us the opportunity to profoundly change the future of the club.

"A supporters' meeting will be held in due course to give more details on how the cash injection will be used on and off the pitch."

Griffin took time out to congratulate Kilman on his move and – without divulging any figures – explained how the deal came to a conclusion.

"As you would expect, commercial confidentially prohibits me from providing specific details about the sell-on clause," he said. "However, we were engaged with various parties during the negotiation process for Max's transfer.

"We reached a mutually agreeable position that all parties are satisfied with and, importantly, it is in the best interest of the club."

After time in the academies of Fulham and Gillingham – and making one cup appearance for Welling United – Kilman joined Maidenhead in 2015. He spent the 2016-17 season on loan at Marlow before returning to establish his place in the Magpies' defence. He made 33 National League appearances in the 2017-18 season, quickly attracting the attentions of higher level clubs.

Wolves swooped in 2018 and he has become a key man for them in the past few seasons, establishing himself as a Premier League regular. He now links up with his former Wolves boss Julen Lopetegui at West Ham.

"It's an amazing feeling to be a West Ham United player," said Kilman, who has penned a seven-year deal. "West Ham is a massive club and I feel this is the natural next step forward in my career."

FAIR GAME IN PLEA TO NEW PM KEIR

By Tom Blackett

CLUBS' coalition Fair Game have urged the new Labour Government to follow through on its promises for change and deliver a Football Governance Bill which creates a fairer future for football.

The Bill was put on the backburner when then-Prime Minister Rishi Sunak called a General Election in May, but Fair Game, a group of more than 30 EFL and Non-League clubs seeking greater equality in football, want it brought back now by new PM Keir Starmer.

The Labour Party committed to establishing an independent regulator for football as part of their election manifesto and Fair Game is urging Starmer to act fast.

Fair Game CEO Niall Couper said: "The in-tray for Keir Starmer is massive and no doubt he will be keen to push forward with a large number of legislative changes. We urge the incoming Labour Government to ensure a reworked Football Governance Bill is amongst them. Change is urgently needed and it could be a quick win.

"Keir Starmer is vocal about his love of the game and visited numerous lower league football clubs during his campaign, so I hope he knows how important football is to local communities.

"The need for an overhaul of the governance of our national game grows stronger every day."

Clubs to face Prem starlets

A NEW midweek cup competition between National League teams and Premier League U21 sides will kick-off in the upcoming season, clubs have been told.

The format will see 16 clubs from Step 1 sides enter along with 16 academy sides in an EFL Trophy-style cup.

The competition is likely to begin in November with four regional groups of eight.

Group games will only be National League v Premier League in the group stages – a total of four games – with the top two from each qualifying for the quarter-finals.

National League clubs will host the group and knock-out games up until the final, with a date and venue to be confirmed.

Games will be streamed live on National League TV.

SHRIMPERS' NEW HOPE

By Tom Blackett

SOUTHEND took another step towards salvation this week after owner Ron Martin agreed terms with the consortium bidding to buy the cash-strapped club.

Custodians of Southend United (COSU) – a consortium led by Australian businessman Justin Rees – have been locked in negotiations with Martin for several months.

One major stumbling block has been COSU's insistence on separating a deal to purchase the club from a housing development at Fossetts Farm, where Martin had previously planned to build a new stadium.

However, a fresh agreement was drawn up last week and both parties have now accepted the terms, though a lengthy



IN THE CROSSFIRE: Southend United's Roots Hall home

period of due diligence is expected.

Writing on X, formerly Twitter, Southend's Labour Councillor Dan Cowan – who has been in constant contact with the consortium – said: "Feeling positive about the future of SUFC. Legals still need to be completed but there's an understanding and acceptance from all at the table that this is our final chance and we all want to see it through. If SUFC has a future it's due to these guys."

A transfer embargo imposed on the Shrimpers has also been lifted, allowing manager Kevin Maher to rebuild his squad. This follows the dismissal of a winding up petition against the club at the High Court last week.

BIG INTERVIEW: KIDDERMINSTER



> Macca would punch me in the face if I thought I had cracked it after four games, and I would do the same to him
>
> Phil Brown

NEW STRING TO THE BOW: Former Premier League boss Phil Brown is relishing the challenge of managing in National League North this season
PICTURE: Alamy

WHATEVER THE SAME GAME –

By CHRIS DUNLAVY

IF PEOPLE were surprised when Phil Brown took over at Kidderminster last season, you can only imagine the astonishment when he chose to hang around following relegation to National League North.

After retiring to become assistant to long-term mentor Sam Allardyce in 1996, the 65-year-old spent over a decade in the Premier League, first as a coach at Bolton then as the manager of Hull.



BOLD EFFORT: Kidderminster Harriers failed to avoid the trap-door last season

His CV includes a Championship promotion with the Tigers, another from League Two at Southend, spells at Preston and Swindon, plus two years in the Indian Super League at the helm of Hyderabad.



DOUBLE ACT: Phil Brown, left, with Sam Allardyce

With the exception of international management, Brown has achieved everything that could reasonably be expected and is hardly strapped for cash. So what's the appeal of regional football?

"I just love the game," insists the Tynesider, who is assisted at Aggborough by Neil McDonald, another Allardyce acolyte who has spent almost three decades in backroom roles.

"At the end of the day, football doesn't change. You're trying to pit your wits against another manager. It's eleven versus eleven. What does the level matter?

"It's funny because the first match I ever watched live was South Shields. Newcastle brought a reserve side to Simonside Hall and my dad took me down.

"I'll never forget a Scottish midfielder called Tommy Gibb. He sat on the ball in front of me, right in the centre of midfield. Showboating, I suppose. I was thinking 'What's going on here?'. The only player I've ever seen do that since was Peter Beardsley in training at Bolton.

"Now I'm managing in the same division as South Shields, so talk about things coming full circle.

"Do we want to be at this level? Of course not. But we accept it. We're realistic. We understand that the game plays its cards and sometimes you're on the wrong end of a hand. But we've also been on the right end of it, and we've seen what can happen when you apply yourself.

"That's what we're aiming for this year. We don't believe that our careers are anywhere near over. We want to put ourselves back on the map by getting promoted."

Brown nearly saved himself the bother, orchestrating a remarkable resurgence upon his arrival at Aggborough in January. Six wins from eight games briefly hoisted Kiddy out of the relegation zone, but a season-ending injury to influential skipper Shane Byrne proved decisive.

Legends

"It wasn't that Shane was a great player or anything like that, but we lost a little bit of leadership," he explains.

"When you haven't got that, players walk onto the field thinking 'Who are the big boys? Who are the men? Who is going to win the battle?'. We lost that edge.

"There were other factors. We'd gone from winning four from 28 to four out of four. People started believing their own headlines and that's fatal.

"Macca would punch me in the face if I thought I'd cracked it after four games, and I would do the same to him. You never crack this game. It cracks you."

As a coach, Brown was at the vanguard of the data era, with Allardyce one of the first managers in England to embrace the potential of Opta to provide percentage gains.

Those traits remain – Kiddy have a resident sports scientist – yet he is also defiantly traditional in many aspects, particularly when it comes to player recruitment.

"Back in the old days, a chief scout used to be out and about, going to three, four, five games a week," he says. "All the backroom staff would be part of that.

"I remember Jack Chapman at Bolton. He'd say 'You're going to this game. You're going to that game'. You weren't asked. You were told. It didn't matter what your position was, and that included the manager.

"Then you had to put your reports in and he collated all the information. And this wasn't on computers. This was in a filing cabinet. It was nothing short of brilliant how he did it.

"Computers then brought stats and video footage, and

HARRIERS MANAGER PHIL BROWN





FANS' FAVOURITE: Ashley Hemmings
PICTURE: Gary Learmonth

LEVEL, IT'S THE IT CRACKS YOU

that's wonderful. But the next thing you know you've got lazy chief scouts who don't go to games. I can't be doing with that.

"My chief scout here does things properly. I've also got a couple of older guys who are absolute legends of the game. I've got one up in the north-east who is 81. Another in the midlands who is 77. They still want to go out in the middle of January and sniff, smell, scratch. Just to see what they can find.

"And everything we do, all that information, will be left behind for the club to benefit from in the future.

"I used to hate going into clubs and saying 'Where are the scouting reports? Where are the networks?'. Because if they weren't there, it usually meant it had all gone when the chief scout was sacked along with the manager.

"For me, that's just rubbish. Football should be about supporting the owners who support the club by pumping in money left, right and centre. It's their filing cabinet, not yours."

Robust

Perhaps unsurprisingly for one schooled at the hand of Allardyce, he is also pragmatic in his approach to tactics, citing the progress of several smaller nations at the European Championships as an example of why the much-aped Manchester City blueprint is not the only route to success.

"Man City and those teams at the top are responsible for a style of football that everyone is trying to play these days," he says.

"And that's great. If you've got the players, get on with it. I love to watch Man City and I love to see a tactical, technical game.

"But I also like a battle. And when you haven't got the players, you've got to fight your way through it. For me, that's coming out loud and clear in the Euros.

"Everybody went overboard about how bad England were against Slovakia, but don't discount what they did. The mentality, the way they defended, the way they hit England on the break and were difficult to break down.

"It was the same when Portugal played Slovenia. Portugal really struggled to get behind them, just as England did.

"If you're resilient, organised and strong – Macca uses the word robust – then that will get you a long way. That's what we are trying to build here.

"Robust individuals and a robust team so that we can go to places like Farsley Celtic and South Shields, where you might get a battering if you can't do the physical side. That's the challenge."

> I was headhunted for this job but now my head's on the block. If we don't go straight back up, I'll be out of a job
>
> Phil Brown

It is a challenge nearing its conclusion. Veteran Halifax midfielder Luke Summerfield, ex-Hereford defender Paul Downing and young Swansea loanee Maliq Cadogan are amongst four summer arrivals.

Brown would like "two or three more" before the season kicks off, but is confident that Kiddy retain the pulling power to build a squad capable of promotion.

"We're a big club," he says. "We're full-time. That's attracting a lot of interest and we've still got one or two big names at the club.

"Myself and Macca being here, I think that's attractive at this level to say the least. It's been very positive in that sense.

"It's been quite a bit of work. The big difference in Non-League football is that everybody is on ten-month contracts.

"Owners and chairman aren't prepared to pay wages when people aren't working, which is understandable, but it does mean lads go missing.

"But we're getting there and we're under no illusions about what's required.

"I was headhunted for this job but now my head's on the block. If we don't go straight back up, I'll be out of a job.

"Like I say, football is the same at every level."

Chris  DUNLAVY

A FRESH TAKE ON FOOTBALL

A PROPER PLAN CONQUERS ALL

ASK a football manager to assess the competition and – as sure as night follows day – talk will turn to budgets.

Those blessed with deep pockets insist the figures are being exaggerated. Those without reel off names and numbers and use words like 'competitive' to insinuate that anything beyond a mid-table finish would eclipse Leicester winning the Premier League.

And that's fair enough. There's a reason Chesterfield won the National League. It's the same reason Wrexham are now in League One.

Arrange a division's wage bill from highest to lowest in any given season and, chances are, you'll have something that very closely resembles the final table.

Many years ago, my former colleague Stuart Hammonds did exactly this. Over the course of several painstaking days, he called the owner or chief executive of every National League club and asked them, off the record, to reveal their actual budget.

Lo and behold, the 'budget' table he compiled was an almost identical replica of the actual standings, bar a few anomalies.

Which begs an obvious question: do we even need managers? Clearly, someone competent and qualified is required to select a team and set it up. It's not like you could just replace Paul Cook with Barry from EastEnders and charge to promotion all the same.

But if the most expensive players always win anyway, is there any reason to believe that Cook would fare any worse at Manchester City than Pep Guardiola?

Similar questions crop up in Formula One. Is it the driver, or the car? Is Max Verstappen really invincible? Or would Lewis Hamilton be equally unbeatable at the wheel of a Red Bull?

The answer, of course, is a lot more complicated than a simple yes or no. Managers, like F1 drivers, probably are overrated, as Guardiola himself has argued on many occasions.



UNDERDOGS: Manager Andy Peaks, left, and his Tamworth side upset the odds to win National League North last season PICTURE: Garry Griffiths

Percentages

Countless studies have proved that sacking them rarely leads to any meaningful long-term change in results or performance. The worst car usually loses and the best car usually wins, and it's exactly the same with footballers.

England, for instance, could not have played much worse against Slovakia last weekend, but were rescued by a £100m player who knocked in a 95th-minute overhead kick. Can Gareth Southgate take any credit for that? Absolutely not.

Equally, elite sport is a game of percentages. From the Premier League to the Combined Counties, the difference between the best and the rest is relatively small, and often comes down to the slightest of edges – in consistency, fitness, tactical details, team spirit, recruitment and various other factors.

Tamworth's squad didn't strike fear into anyone when they were promoted to National League North in 2023. They had part-time players on part-time wages, in a division where most of the favourites were full-time or hybrid.

But they were solid, organised and fully committed to a style of play that prioritised clean sheets.

"People have become obsessed with rolling it out in your six-yard box and overplaying in areas where it's high risk," mused King's Lynn boss Adam Lakeland. "But look at Tamworth. They play to their strengths, they maximise them. They're gritty, they're hard to beat and that's a dying art."

Was it pretty? Absolutely not. But it gave the Lambs a crucial edge that ultimately negated their opponents' financial advantage.



Strategy

Their promotion was the opposite of the Jude Bellingham factor, a triumph of collective spirit and organisation over individual quality.

Nobody could possibly argue that Tamworth's manager, Andy Peaks, was a bit-part player in that. Not only did he and his coaches devise and implement a title-winning strategy, they also recruited suitable players and fostered an atmosphere of total conviction to the cause.

In the European Championships, too, the most impressive teams have not been the star-studded favourites but the likes of Georgia and Austria, whose devotion to a clearly-defined system of play – whatever that may be – has allowed them to compete with some of the world's best players. For a while, anyway.

In the end, the richest teams with the best players still come out on top. Georgia went out to Spain. Tamworth will, without doubt, find clean sheets harder to come by next season. And all those managers talking about budgets will say I told you so.

They're right, of course, but as the Lambs proved – and as England's travails have illustrated – all the talent and money in the world can still falter in the face of a committed team with a proper plan.

COSU HAVE SHOWN UNITED INTENT

THERE'S a general rule of thumb when it comes to the purchase of football clubs: the longer things drag on, and the more noise you hear, the less likely a takeover becomes.

Little wonder, then, that Southend supporters are nervous. A deal to sell the club to COSU, a consortium led by Australian businessman Justin Rees, has been in the works since what seems like the Triassic Period.

Bond demands. Winding-up orders. Creditors coming out of the woodwork. You name the obstacle, Southend have hit it, leaving a resolution both tantalisingly close and agonisingly out of reach.

What's crucial in this case, however, is the material commitment of COSU in terms of time and funding. Rees and his cohorts have provided financial backing to Southend despite not owning the club, knowing full well that their investment would go up in smoke if the deal collapsed.

This tells us two things. One, that they don't believe it will collapse. And two, they are not the sort of fly-by-night charlatans who buy a club first and look for the money later.

Clubs who attract this sort of serious interest almost never go bust, however insurmountable their problems may seem. If things drag, as they have at Southend, it is frustrating but rarely fatal. Buyers negotiate. Sellers dig their heels in. Councils and creditors stick spanners in the works. It's all part of the process.

The time to worry – as the sad case of Bury illustrates – is when your debts are so terrifying and the potential for recovery so limited that nobody shows an interest at all.

That has never been the case at Roots Hall.

FANTASY NON-LEAGUE 2024-25

PRIZE MONEY 2024-25

OVERALL WINNER £1,000!, 2ND £500, 3RD £250, BOTTOM £500

MANAGER OF THE MONTH 1ST £25, 2ND £10, 3RD £5, BOTTOM £10

WELL, here we go again. It only feels like yesterday that we were finishing last season's competition.

This season's Fantasy Non-League will again only cost you £5 to enter. The FNL 2024/25 entry deadline will be midnight on Saturday, August 31, 2024. It is very important that you read the rules very closely as I am making some changes to the competition this season.

Again, this season the EARLY ENTRY BONUS is in play, which is being increased to 1,000pts. This is always a difficult subject and gauging what this should be is not easy.

Last season, the highest position at the end of the season of a team that entered before the season started was 52nd. They finished the season 2,469pts behind the FNL 2023/24 winner.

I had thought about dropping the Early Entry Bonus and starting the competition from Saturday, August 31, but it was pointed out to me that this course of action would hinder The Mixtures leagues as those three weeks of August feature at least two rounds of the FA Cup.

Therefore, I have decided to stick with the Early Entry Bonus and everyone will start scoring points from the start of the season on Saturday, August 10.

So, how does the Early Entry Bonus work? Well, if you enter the competition before 12pm noon on Saturday August 10 you will receive those EARLY ENTRY BONUS points.

I still get emails and calls commenting on the fact that we allow people to enter the competition nearly four weeks into the season.

Ideally, I would love to start the competition before the season starts but if we did, we would only have around half the players we normally get. My normal answer to everyone that asks this question is everyone can start either before the season starts or before the deadline at the end of August. In fact, I know that many players enter at least two teams – one before the season starts and one before the deadline at 3pm on Saturday, August 31.

There will again be Manager of the Month awards. In total, there will be eight of these with the last one being April 2025.

However, again this season the first Manager of the Month will be for the month of September.

At the end of the season, there will be cash prizes for the top three places and once again we will have my personal favourite, a prize for finishing bottom, so why not enter two teams, one to win it and one to lose it? If you have never tried to finish bottom then give it a go, it is not easy.

Again, this season you will be competing for the Barrie New Bottom Spot!! (If you are planning to try and finish bottom can I suggest that you enter after the season starts so there is no chance of me accidentally giving you the Early Entry Bonus).

Every season I like to make a few changes to the competition and this season is no different. This season there will be five changes, so please make sure to take note of these.

● The biggest change this season is the introduction of two more leagues. I have decided to revamp The Mixture part of the competition. The reason for this is that it has become more difficult to choose just 24 teams.

The Mixture will become three leagues of 24 teams. The Northern Mixture (eight teams from each of the three Step 4 divisions). The Isthmian Mixture (eight teams from each of the three Step 4 divisions). The Southern Mixture (12 teams from each of the two Step 4 divisions).

● As stated above the Early Entry Bonus is being increased to 1,000pts.

● I am dropping the bonus teams as they have caused some confusion. Therefore, this season you will need to pick three teams from each of the ten leagues (30 teams) and I will be increasing the jokers from three to five teams.

● In previous seasons I have been awarding 25 and -25pts to the best and worst performing teams in each month. This season this will change to 30, 15 and 7pts for the top best performing teams each month and -30, -15 & -7pts for the bottom three worst performing clubs each month.

● This season I have also decided to alter the End of Season Bonus points. I will be awarding the top three and bottom three in each league the following 250, 125 & 60pts for the top three and -250, -125 & -60pts for the bottom three. The cup competitions and the Play-Offs will remain the same.

THE RULES FOR FNL 2024/25

(Please read these very carefully).

You will need to choose three teams from each of the ten leagues. (Which will give you a total of 30 teams). Then you will need to nominate your five FNL JOKER TEAMS from the 30 teams you have already picked.

Those five teams will mean that you will receive double points throughout the season. That will include all bonuses awarded during the season, it will also include the End of Season bonuses.

Also, if you wish you can pick five substitute teams, but these five teams must be on your FNL 2024/25 Entry Form at the start of the season. (More on the substitutes later in this season's rules).

POINTS ALLOCATION, IN ALL TEN LEAGUES LEAGUE & CUP GAMES

Home win = 10pts + goals Away win = 20pts + goals

Home Draw = 2pt + goals Away Draw = 4pts + goals

Home Defeat = -10pts Away defeat = -5pts

Every goal scored = 1pt (This counts if your team wins, draws or loses).

Every goal conceded (Win & Defeat only) -1pt.

Goal Bonus Points = 5pts (This is awarded if your teams score 4 or more goals).

Clean Sheet Bonus = 5pts (This is awarded for both wins and 0-0 draws).

Concede 4 goals = -5pts (This does not apply to drawn games).

(Two-legged ties count as two separate games. Cup replays that go to penalties. The penalties are only used to decide the winner. No points are awarded for the penalties scored).

BONUS POINTS FOR REACHING VARIOUS ROUNDS IN EACH CUP COMPETITION

For reaching the FA Cup 1st round proper and each round beyond = 25pts.

For reaching the Quarter-finals and each round beyond in all the other cups that are involved in the competition which are listed below = 25pts.

LEAGUE LEADERS & BOTTOM CLUB BONUS

At the end of each month up to and including April 2025 the top three teams leading each of the ten leagues will be awarded 30pts, 15pts & 7pts respectively. The bottom three teams of the ten leagues will be awarded -30pts, -15pts & -7pts respectively. The Mixture bonus points will be allocated based on the top three and worst three teams over the leagues that are included in The Mixture Leagues. (Please remember and this is important these bonus points will only count towards the main FNL season total and not the Manager of the Month points).

MANAGER OF THE MONTH BONUS POINTS

Each month the best and worst team in each of the ten leagues will be awarded 30, 15 & 7pts & -30, -15 & -7pts respectively. (These bonus points only count in the Manager of the Month calculations).

PLAY-OFF GAMES

The actual Play-Off games themselves will be awarded points as if they were league games. The Play-Off Final winners will be awarded 50pts for gaining promotion. (These points will be awarded at the end of the season).

END OF SEASON BONUS POINTS

(These points will be awarded at the end of the FNL Season in May 2025).

All League Champions will receive 250pts for winning their respective leagues. Second place will get 125pts and third place will receive 60pts.

The bottom team in each league at the end of the season's Fantasy Non-League will be awarded -250pts.

Second from bottom -125pts and third from bottom -60pts.

Cup Winners will receive 250pts for the FA Trophy and 150pts for the other Cups.

Play-Off Winners will receive 50pts.

Remember if your FNL Joker team get these bonuses they will be doubled, for example a league champion picked in July 2024 at the start of the FNL Season will win you 500pts.

The Mixture Leagues will be awarded the End of Season Bonuses based on the FNL Points scored over the season. However, if any of the other clubs in The Mixture wins their respective league or get relegated, they will receive 150pts or -150pts. This will be halved if you sub the respective teams in the transfer window.

Substituted teams will be awarded half the End of Season bonus points & the full Play-Off Winners bonus.

The following Leagues and Cup competitions will be involved in this season's Fantasy Non-League

National League - FA Cup and FA Trophy.

National North - FA Cup and FA Trophy.

National South - FA Cup and FA Trophy.

Northern Premier - FA Cup, FA Trophy and League Cup.

Isthmian Premier - FA Cup, FA Trophy and League Cup.

Southern Premier Central - FA Cup, FA Trophy and League Cup.

Southern Premier South – FA Cup, FA Trophy and League Cup.

The Mixture Leagues - FA Cup, FA Trophy, League Cups.

USE OF SUBSTITUTIONS.

As stated above, you can select five substitutes on your FNL 2024/25 Entry Forms and out of those five substitutes you can use all five substitutes. Again, this season there will be only one substitution window and that will be during the month of December 2024 with your selected changes taking effect from January 1, 2025.

Details on how to use your substitutions will be released nearer the time during the month of November. Please also note you can change your FNL Joker teams on January 1, 2025 if you wish, but this will count as one of your substitutions.

Ian White
Fantasy Non-League

ENTER ONLINE @ http://www.thenonleaguefootballpaper.com/fantasy-non-league

2024/25 ENTRY FORM

NATIONAL LEAGUE			NATIONAL LEAGUE NORTH			NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH			NORTHERN PREMIER			ISTHMIAN PREMIER		
Pick Three	Code	Tick	Pick Three	Code	Tick	Pick Three	Code	Tick	Pick Three	Code	Tick	Pick Three	Code	Tick
AFC Fylde	1		Alfreton Tn	25		Aveley	49		Ashton Utd	73		Billericay Tn	95	
Aldershot Tn	2		Brackley Tn	26		Bath City	50		Bamber Bridge	74		Bognor Regis Tn	96	
Altrincham	3		Buxton FC	27		Boreham Wood	51		Basford United	75		Bowers & Pitsea	97	
Barnet FC	4		Chester FC	28		Chelmsford City	52		Blyth Spartans	76		Canvey Island	98	
Boston Utd	5		Chorley	29		Chesham Utd	53		FC United Of Man	77		Carshalton Athletic	99	
Braintree Tn	6		Curzon Ashton	30		Chippenham Tn	54		Gainsborough T	78		Chatham Tn	100	
Dagenham & Red	7		Darlington FC 1883	31		Dorking Wanderers	55		Guiseley	79		Cheshunt FC	101	
Eastleigh	8		Farsley Celtic	32		Eastbourne Bor	56		Hebburn Tn	80		Chichester City	102	
Ebbsfleet Utd	9		Hereford FC	33		Enfield Tn	57		Hyde Utd	81		Cray Valley Pm	103	
FC Halifax Tn	10		Kidderminster H	34		Farnborough	58		Ilkeston Tn	82		Cray Wanderers	104	
Forest Green Rvrs	11		King's Lynn Tn	35		Hampton & Rich	59		Lancaster City	83		Dartford FC	105	
Gateshead FC	12		Leamington	36		Hemel Hempstead	60		Leek Tn	84		Dover Athletic	106	
Hartlepool Utd	13		Marine	37		Hornchurch	61		Macclesfield	85		Dulwich Hamlet	107	
Maidenhead Utd	14		Needham Market	38		Maidstone Utd	62		Matlock Tn	86		Folkstone Invicta	108	
Oldham Athletic	15		Oxford City	39		Salisbury FC	63		Mickleover FC	87		Hashtag Utd	109	
Rochdale	16		Peterborough Sp	40		Slough Tn	64		Morpeth Tn	88		Hastings Utd	110	
Solihull Moors	17		Radcliffe FC	41		St Albans City	65		Prescot Cables	89		Hendon FC	111	
Southend United	18		Rushall Olympic	42		Tonbridge Angels	66		Stockton Tn	90		Horsham FC	112	
Sutton Utd	19		Scarborough Ath	43		Torquay Utd	67		Warrington Rylands	91		Lewes	113	
Tamworth	20		Scunthorpe Utd	44		Truro City	68		Whitby Tn	92		Potters Bar Tn	114	
Wealdstone	21		South Shields	45		Welling Utd	69		Workington AFC	93		Whitehawk	115	
Woking	22		Southport	46		Weston-s-Mare	70		Worksop Tn	94		Wingate & Finchley	116	
Yeovil Tn	23		Spennymoor Tn	47		Weymouth	71							
York City	24		Warrington Tn	48		Worthing	72							

SOUTH PREMIER CENTRAL			SOUTH PREMIER SOUTH			THE NORTHERN MIXTURE			THE ISTHMIAN MIXTURE			THE SOUTHERN MIXTURE		
Pick Three	Code	Tick	Pick Three	Code	Tick	Pick Three	Code	Tick	Pick Three	Code	Tick	Pick Three	Code	Tick
AFC Sudbury	117		AFC Totton	139		Belper Tn	161		Ascot Utd	185		AFC Dunstable	209	
AFC Telford Utd	118		Basingstoke Tn	140		Bishop Auckland	162		Farnham Tn	186		Barton Rovers	210	
Alvechurch	119		Bracknell Tn	141		Bradford (PA)	163		Guernsey FC	187		Beaconsfield Tn	211	
Banbury Utd	120		Chertsey Tn	142		Consett FC	164		Hartley Wintney	188		Flackwell Heath	212	
Barwell	121		Dorchester Tn	143		Emley FC	165		Hayes & Yeading	189		Hadley FC	213	
Bedford Tn	122		Frome Tn	144		Grimsby Borough	166		Moneyfields FC	190		Kings Langley	214	
Biggleswade Tn	123		Gloucester City	145		Newton Aycliffe	167		Uxbridge FC	191		Leverstock Green	215	
Bishop's Stortford	124		Gosport Borough	146		Sheffield FC	168		Westfield FC	192		North Leigh FC	216	
Bromsgrove Sp	125		Hanwell Tn	147		Chasetown FC	169		Baslidon Utd	193		Northwood FC	217	
Halesowen Tn	126		Havant & Water'ville	148		City Of Liverpool	170		Cambridge City	194		Real Bedford	218	
Harborough Tn	127		Hungerford Tn	149		Hednesford Tn	171		Gorleston FC	195		Thame Utd	219	
Hitchin Tn	128		Marlow FC	150		Mossley FC	172		Grays Athletic	196		Ware FC	220	
Kettering Tn	129		Merthyr Tn	151		Nantwich Tn	173		Maldon & Tiptree	197		Bashley FC	221	
Leiston FC	130		Plymouth Parkway	152		Newcastle Tn	174		Sporting Bengal U	198		Bideford FC	222	
Lowestoft Tn	131		Poole Tn	153		Stafford Rangers	175		Tilbury FC	199		Cinderford Tn	223	
Redditch Utd	132		Sholing FC	154		Widnes FC	176		Wroxham FC	200		Cribbs FC	224	
Royston Tn	133		Swindon S	155		AFC Rushden & D	177		AFC Croydon	201		Falmouth Tn	225	
Spalding Utd	134		Taunton Tn	156		Boldmere St Mi's	178		Burgess Hill Tn	202		Helston Athletic	226	
St. Ives Tn	135		Tiverton Tn	157		Grantham Tn	179		Deal Tn	203		Larkhall Athletic	227	
Stamford AFC	136		Walton & Hersham	158		Lye Tn	180		Eastbourne Tn	204		Mousehole FC	228	
Stourbridge	137		Wimborne Tn	159		RC Warwick	181		Herne Bay	205		Shaftesbury FC	229	
Stratford Tn	138		Winchester City	160		Walsall Wood	182		Margate FC	206		Tavistock FC	230	
						Wellingborough T	183		Steyning Tn Com	207		Thatcham Tn	231	
						Worcester City	184		Three Bridges FC	208		Westbury Utd	232	

PICK THREE TEAMS FROM EACH LEAGUE (30 TEAMS) AND FIVE JOKERS. THE JOKERS MUST BE FIVE TEAMS YOU HAVE ALREADY PICKED.

MY FIVE SUBSTITUTE CLUBS ARE:

1. ....
2. ....
3. ....
4. ....
5. ....

WHICH TEAM DO YOU SUPPORT IN THE REAL WORLD?

YOU SHOULD HAVE 30 TEAMS IN TOTAL (THREE FROM EACH OF THE 10 LEAGUES AND 5 JOKER TEAMS). THE 5 JOKERS MUST BE TEAMS YOU HAVE ALREADY PICKED

Deadline for entry is 3pm Saturday, August 31 2024.
The game starts on Saturday, July 27 2024.
Entries before the season starts on Saturday, 27th July 2024 get 1,000 bonus points.

Name: ....

Address: ....

.... **Postcode:** ....

Telephone: ....

Email Address: ....

Team Name (max 15 letters) ....

Please send form to: Fantasy Non-League, The Non-League Paper, Tuition House, St George's Road, Wimbledon SW19 4EU

ONLY £5 PER ENTRY

Payment by Cheques payable to *The Football Paper Ltd* or by Postal Order

Please tick here if you do not want to be contacted by The NLP ☐

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PHONE NUMBER – 07909993854

SPECIAL TROPHY EDITION SET FOR KICK-OFF

By Matt Badcock

THE 50th anniversary of the hugely popular annual Graham Edwards Memorial Trophy kicks off this morning.

The long-running charity tournament is named in memory of the promising young footballer, who passed away aged just 21 from Leukaemia in 1974.

Since then almost £175,000 has been raised for Leukaemia Research through funds brought in at games as well as through a raffle with this year's top prize a holiday in Spain for two.

There will also be a new trophy this year – donated by Les and Kaye Hartshorn – after the original trophy was retired last year due to showing its age.

Group A will be made up of last year's winners Gobowen Celtic, Ellesmere United, St Martins and The Keys, St Martins.

AFC Weston Rhyn, Llangollen Town Reserves, Morda United 1975 and The New Saints U18s compete in group B.

The winner of Group A will play Group B's runner-up on Tuesday, July 23, with the other semi between Group B's winner and the runner of Group A on Thursday, July 25 (both 6.30pm kick off). The final takes place at 3pm on Sunday, July 28.

GROUP STAGE
(All matches at Gobowen Playing Field)
Sunday, July 7: Gobowen Celtic v Ellesmere United (11am), St Martins v The Keys, St Martins (3pm)
Tuesday, July 9: Morda United 1975 v Llangollen Town Reserves (6.30).
Thursday, July 11: TNS U18s v AFC West Rhyn (6.30)
Friday, July 12: Gobowen Celtic v St Martins (6.30)
Sunday, July 14: St Martins v Ellesmere United (11), TNS U18 v Llangollen Town Reserves (3.00)
Tuesday, July 16: Morda United 1975 v AFC Weston Rhyn (6.30)
Wednesday, July 17: Gobowen Celtic v St Martins (6.30)
Thursday, July 18: The Keys, St Martins v Ellesmere United (6.30)
Sunday, July 21: TNS U18s v Morda United 1975 (11), AFC Weston Rhyn v Llangollen Town Reserves (3.00)

PRE-SEASON FRIENDLIES

CRAY WANDERERS 1 — SE DONS 1

Muwonge 75 — Trialist 57



SO CLOSE: Cray Wanderers apply the pressure in the inaugural game at their new Flamingo Park home
PICTURE: Matt Bristow

MAGIC DAY FOR WANDS & DONS

By Mark Hunt

CRAY Wanderers and SE Dons stepped up their preparations for the new season – and it promises to be a huge one for both clubs as they embark on new, exciting journeys.

The Wands, founded in 1860, are finally looking forward to playing at a ground they can call their own.

They will be in action at Flamingo Park, on the A20 in Sidcup, with a FIFA passed 3G surface and, through phase one of ground development, will be ready to kick off the Isthmian Premier League season with optimism and confidence.

Assistant manager Tim O'Shea said: "This was our first game at Flamingo Park and you can feel the buzz and sense of anticipation here. It is just a shame the weather wasn't kind for us today.

"That buzz can feed its way to the players and give them some extra energy.

"We are very excited about the start of the season, although we are very much a work in progress and still finalising our squad for this year."

SE Dons, formed in 2014 by rapper Don Strapzy, are making the step up from Sunday League to Southern Counties East League Division One in partnership with Forest Hill Park FC.

The Dons are a club with a huge online following and at matches in south-east London, so they will be looking to bring the excitement and colour forged on a Sunday to Step 6 football – and beyond.

On the move to Step 6, manager Mark Dacey said: "It's going to be massive. The following the club had during the Sunday football scene was huge and we're looking to build on that.

"Whether that happens this season or not I don't know, but the potential is there for us to establish ourselves.

"We are a proper football club now and it's an honour for me to be here and a chance for us to progress and show what we are about."

The match itself on a wet and windy afternoon didn't put a dampener on the occasion and both sides can be happy with a 1-1 draw.

In a game with two different sides in each half, both goals were scored in the second period. A trialist put SE Dons ahead in the 57th minute but Enoch Muwonge levelled for Cray on 75 minutes.

In the end, though, it wasn't really about the match but the start of a new dawn for both clubs.

STAR MAN: Enoch Muwonge (Cray W)
ENTERTAINMENT: ★★★☆☆



BACK IN THE OLD ROUTINE: Cray wheel away

See your summer games in print by sending them to us at nlp@greenwayspublishing.co.uk

CHESTER 2 STOCKPORT CO 3

Caton 57, Williams 81 | Gardner 27, Wootton 40, Bate 44

SEALS' EFFORTS WASHED AWAY



UP FOR IT: Chester's Charlie Caton rises high
PICTURE: Rick Matthews

By Neil Turner

SUPPORTERS attending the Deva Stadium for the first pre-season contest of the new campaign attended with not just the anticipation of viewing a number of Chester's new signings, but also for their first sighting of a new ground-breaking commercial initiative secured by the club's innovative business team.

The Seals have secured what they consider to be a unique contract with a company to open a state of the art Launderette in the corner of the club's car park.

Yesterday there wasn't a Dot Cotton in sight early on as League One Stockport County raced in to a 3-0 half-time lead with an impressive performance that had put the home defenders through the wringer.

However, a two-goal comeback in the second half did provide the home faithful with a degree of Comfort!

County were far the better side in the first period of an enjoyable clash, forcing Cam Mason in the home goal to make a number of top drawer saves.

Man of the Match Lewis Bate brought out a stunning save from Mason after 10 minutes, the former Curzon Ashton and Southport shot-stopper diving full length to parry a 20-yard thunderbolt.

The visitors took the lead on 27 minutes. Bate threaded a delightful through ball to Che Gardner, the youngster then slipping past some poor marking to slot the ball home.

Kyle Wootton doubled the Hatters' advantage after 40 minutes, the striker knocking the ball home following a cross from the right.

A minute before the break Bate dispossessed Declan Weeks before drilling a stunning 20-yard effort that fizzed past Mason and into the net.

Both sides made a raft of changes at half-time, with the change of personnel benefiting Chester rather than Stockport.

Charlie Caton reduced the deficit after 57 minutes. Harrison Burke was the orchestrator, floating a delicious cross into the area which afforded Caton the opportunity to score.

Chances fell to Mitch Hancox and Caton, but both went narrowly wide. With nine minutes of the game remaining, Matty Williams took advantage of a poor clearance from the visitors, the central defender thundering an unstoppable effort from 20 yards home.

Chester should have grabbed an equaliser in added time. However, George Glendon fluffed his lines from close in and the chance went down the plug hole.

STAR MAN: Lewis Bate (Stockport)
ENTERTAINMENT: ★★★☆☆



WELL PLAYED: Chester celebrate Matty Williams' goal

GOAL-DEN OLDIES ON MARK FOR THE BULLS

ROUND-UP

By David Lawrence

HEREFORD had veteran strike pair Andy Williams and Adam Rooney on the scoresheet as they opened their pre-season campaign with a 2-0 win at city neighbours **Westfields**.

Williams had already gone close before he opened the scoring five minutes before the break, the 37-year-old former Swindon Town, Doncaster Rovers and Cheltenham Town frontman profiting from teammate Cosmos Matwasa's good work.

That was all that separated the sides until the 85th minute when 36-year-old Rooney doubled the Bulls' lead.

Guiseley were on the receiving end of a 7-0 defeat by **Huddersfield Town**. Josh Windass and Mark Wills were on target for **Sheffield Wednesday** in their 2-0 defeat of National League North hosts **Alfreton Town**, while **Fleetwood Town** beat **Bamber Bridge** by the same scoreline, their goals coming from Kayden Hughes and Callum Dolan.

National League South outfit **Maidstone United** were 4-1 winners at **Bearsted** thanks to efforts from Riley Court, Jordan Higgs and two trialists. Jason Banton scored for the home side.

National League newcomers **Tamworth** suffered a surprise 1-0 defeat at Step 4 side **Hinckley LRFC** for whom Harry Wakefield was on the scoresheet, while **Dorking Wanderers** won 2-0 at **Poole Town**, the goals coming from Jimmy Muitt and Jason Prior.

Dover Athletic had to come from behind to beat **Sevenoaks Town** 2-1. A trialist had given the Isthmian League side the lead but the visitors hit back through one of their own trialists and midfielder Luke Baptiste.

There was silverware up for grabs on the Yorkshire coast where **Whitby Town** retained the Tony Lee Memorial Trophy following their 3-1 defeat of **Bishop Auckland**. Jake Hackett gave the visitors an early lead but an own goal just before the break ensured the sides were all-square at half-time. Jake Charles then turned match-winner for the Seasiders with two goals, his second a fine solo effort.

Matlock Town beat **Chesterfield** 5-3 on penalties to win the Ernie Moss Challenge Cup after the sides drew 0-0 in front of a sell-out crowd.

The Spireites created the better of the chances but successful spot-kicks from Connor O'Grady, Joe West and three trialists meant the Gladiators lifted the cup.

Altrincham edged their match at **Colne** 1-0 but Dartford slumped to a 6-1 defeat at home to **Charlton Athletic** for whom Tyreese Campbell scored twice. Callum Jones netted a consolation for the Darts.

There were also goals aplenty at **Badshot Lea**, who were edged out 4-3 by visitors **Aldershot Town**, Charlie Sell with the winner from the penalty spot.

Bracknell Town and **Hemel Hempstead Town** drew 3-3 with Alfie Cerulli scoring twice as the visiting Tudors recovered from a three-goal deficit at the interval.

Kidsgrove Athletic lost 1-0 to a **Port Vale** side with the Potteries outfit also seeing off neighbours **Newcastle Town** 3-1 on Friday night.

A Harry Williams goal gave **Swindon Supermarine** a half-time lead at home to Football League neighbours Swindon Town but they were unable to hold on to their advantage as the League Two side ran out 4-1 winners thanks to strikes from Jake Cain, Jaxon Brown and two from Paul Glatzel.

An own goal and a Steven Yawson strike proved enough to hand **Kendal Town** a 2-1 win against a youthful **Morecambe** side, while **Wealdstone** came from behind to draw 3-3 at **Walton & Hersham**. The honours were also even at **Evesham United** who drew 1-1 with **Stratford Town**, a game that saw home manager Mike Ford sent off.

Woodyard and Cowleys, again!

ALEX Woodyard is back playing for the Cowley brothers – for a fourth time in his career.

Boss Danny Cowley and first-team coach Nicky have made the 31-year-old their eighth signing of the summer at League Two Colchester United after the midfielder left York City this week.

Woodyard has played for the Cowley brothers three times before – at Concord Rangers, Braintree Town and Lincoln City, winning promtion to the EFL with the latter.

He then moved on to Peterborough United, Tranmere Rovers and AFC Wimbledon before joining National League York last season.

Boss Cowley said: "We wanted to try to add a little bit more character to the group."

MAY MIXING IT AT ROVERS

FOREST Green Rovers have signed midfielder Adam May on a free transfer.

The 26-year-old made 146 appearances in over four years at Cambridge United, scoring 10 goals.

May came through the ranks at Portsmouth but spent much of his five years on loan at the likes of Sutton United, Aldershot Town and Swindon Town.

"It's exciting listening to the project and the ambition here at Forest Green - it's something I wanted to be apart of," May said.

"I enjoyed my football at Cambridge but now I feel it's the right time to get some more games and hopefully contribute towards the team."

Dawn of a new Day at Daggers

YOUNG striker Harrison Day says it was a "no-brainer" to join local club Dagenham & Redbridge.

May, 18, is one of Essex football's hottest young prospects after scoring 25 goals in the Step 3 Isthmian Premier Division last season with relegated Concord Rangers.

Now he has been given his chance to impress on the full-time stage after signing a one-year deal with Ben Strevens' men.

"I'm really happy to be here, it's a great club," Day said. "I know everyone here already so it's going to be an easy transition for me and I'm really looking forward to it.

"Everyone here has been brilliant, they've been so welcoming. They've shown the most interest in me so it was a no-brainer really."

TIP-TOP OLLY IS MOORED IN

SOLIHULL Moors have landed a coup by luring Wolverhampton Wanderers' Under-21 captain Olly Tipton on a permanent deal.

The 20-year-old defender has put pen to paper on a two-year deal with Andy Whing's side.

"I'm absolutely buzzing," said Tipton, who spent last season on loan at Notts County in League Two. "I couldn't wait to get here and I'm happy to be here and already looking forward to the season."

Director of football Stephen Ward added: "Olly is a player we have monitored for quite some time now.

"He was very highly thought of during his time at Wolves and we are very pleased to secure his signature."

I AIM TO MAKE OF MY PROJECT



SHOTS' STAR TURN: Former Premier League winner Asmir Begovic is training at Aldershot Town
PICTURE: Ian Morsman

PREMIER WINNER ASMIR IS IN SHOT

By Jon Couch

PREMIER League winning goalkeeper Asmir Begovic is training with Aldershot Town.

The 37-year-old Bosnian international has joined in Tommy Widdrington's pre-season camp to keep up his fitness levels after leaving Queens Park Rangers.

Begovic made more than 100 appearances for both Stoke City and Bournemouth either side of a spell at Chelsea in which he served as back-up to Thibaut Courtois in the Blues' 2016-17 Premier League title-winning season.

Widdrington is well stocked in the goalkeeping department at the EBB Stadium after last season's number one Jordi van Stappershoef signed a new deal, joining new arrivals Marcus Dewhurst and Pat Nash.

The Shots boss, however, has further added to his squad this week by bringing in 22-year-old left-sider Ryan Jones and striker Kai Corbett, 21, from Bristol Rovers and Peterborough respectively.

By Paul Fraser

HARTLEPOOL United manager Darren Sarll is desperate to impress – with words from late mentor Glenn Roeder still ringing in his ears.

Sarll has arrived at the Suit Direct Stadium having never managed further north than Stevenage before.

And the Hertfordshire-born boss, who carried the coffin at Roeder's funeral following his death in 2021, is drawing on his memories of the former Newcastle captain and manager to help him achieve success in the north-east.

Roeder – originally from Essex before playing, coaching and managing spells with the Magpies – was advisor to Sarll during a near two-year spell at Stevenage between 2016-18.

And the Pools manager, who has taken charge of his first pre-season week at his new club, said: "Glenn Roeder said to me 'winning in the north-east is the best feeling in the world and that losing in the north-east is the worst feeling in the world'.

"I guess I'm about to find out what those feel like!

"Glenn was an incredible person, with a huge amount of resilience and I'd like to think that is one of the things I have got from him.

"The fact is Glenn nearly died (during an 18-year battle with a diagnosed brain tumour) and still went back into the dugout again and again, and in between those he went to the World Cup with Glenn Hoddle's England squad in 1998. Everything he has said to me has stuck."

Sarll was only 33 when



TOP ADDITION: Tom Crawford

Parkinson turns to Crawford to

By Jon Couch

PHIL Parkinson reckons he has powered up his Altrincham engine room with another 'top player' after snapping up midfielder Tom Crawford.

The 25-year old was the surprise omission from Hartlepool's retained list this summer after standing out for Pools last season. And Alty boss Parkinson wasted no time in offering the England C cap a fresh start at The J. Davidson Stadium after losing star playmaker Chris Conn-Clarke to Peterborough United.

"Tom is a player I have greatly admired for a number of seasons, so when the opportunity arose to sign him, I did not hesitate," Parkinson said of the former Chester, Notts County and AFC Fylde man. "He will complement and enhance our midfield.

"He was a top performer last season, topping all the statistics charts, so we have got a top player on our hands, one I can't wait to see turning out in the red and white.

"He will be a pleasure to watch, a true professional, and I'm sure the Alty faithful will agree with me that we've got

GLENN PROUD IN THE NORTH

Roeder changed me, says Sarll

he took on his first managerial role at Stevenage and won his first three matches in a row, including beating Hartlepool when Pools chief scout Ronnie Moore was in charge.

Demands

Stevenage lost the next six and then a knowledgeable Roeder's experience kicked in.

Sarll said: "He changed everything, he changed me. He was unbelievable.

"As a young manager I had to drop a senior player I was close to early on. I was genuinely worried and Glenn said 'try telling Nicky Butt he is no longer the captain of Newcastle United!'. It helped!

"Another time when I was under pressure, I had 12 fans outside the ground shouting 'Sarll out'. I didn't know what to do. Glenn said 'try managing West Ham, 30,000 would have been waiting for me … and I survived near death'. He just had this way of saying 'don't worry about it'."

Roeder told Sarll he always wanted to play all 46 Newcastle games at home, such was the atmosphere at St James' Park. That is how he is hoping to feel following his own move north to Hartlepool.

Despite his southern roots, Sarll has wanted to strengthen his squad with players familiar with the hefty demands of north-east football.

Former Newcastle, Gateshead and Darlington forward Adam Campbell has joined from Crawley, Durham-born Luke Charman has moved from Fylde and ex-Gateshead midfielder Jack Hunter has joined from Halifax. Nathan Sheron has also arrived from Oldham.

Sarll said: "It's crucial to have that connection with the region, it's nine tenths of the law and why we have targeted the players we have.

"I have been here as an opponent and had a decent record, but I don't totally know the area. It does feel different here though and we have talked about the tribal nature of the support.

Authentic

"There is a hugely passionate and disciplined following. It was a big thing to recruit from the area. I don't want to be the Londoner that comes up and brings ten Londoners, things like that.

"This is Hartlepool and I want it to feel like Hartlepool, organic, like a north-east football team. We have had a good start."

Sarll took charge of his first training session on Monday. He is still looking to add to the squad and outlined that a goalkeeper is a particular priority.

He said: "I am authentic, aggressive, assertive, and know what I want. I don't suffer fools but the players have to know I am there to help them.

"The players have come back fresh, invigorated. I have come in and I am new, so they are probably doing a bit more than what they are used to.

"They are all probably saying 'I wasn't expecting the first week to be that hard'. It's been very tough but when we met on Monday, we wanted to push the bar as high as we can. We have to create an environment that has to become normal."



LEARNING CURVE: Hartlepool United boss Darren Sarll and Glenn Roeder, inset PICTURE: Alamy

keep Robins rocking

a top player joining us."

Crawford made 120 appearances in four years for Pools but is keen now to make a positive impact in Robins' colours.

"I'm very happy to sign for Altrincham," he said. "After sitting down with the manager and hearing his intent to bring me here, I knew this was the club for me. This is where I want to be playing my football.

"The team did fantastically well last season in reaching the play-off semi-final. I hope I can add my own qualities to the group and my experience in the league to help us go one further and get promotion. The club are on an upward trajectory and are very competitive.

"We believe as a group that we can get out of the division, and that's what we will be aiming for this coming season. I can't wait to meet the supporters and have a successful campaign."

LOYAL LATICS DO IT FOR JES

JESURUN Uchegbulam said the Oldham Athletic fans played a pivotal part of his decision to make the move to Boundary Park.

The 23-year-old has penned a one-year deal from north-west rivals Rochdale, where he made 30 appearances last season.

"I've played against Oldham before, I know how loud and passionate the fans are," said the Nigerian-born former Mossley and Matlock Town winger, who spent a season at Chesterfield before joining Dale.

"It's a very exciting move for me. I know a lot about the club, the manager and the expectations here. I'm very pleased to be an Oldham player and I'm ready for the challenge."

Uchegbulam becomes Micky Mellon's fifth signing of the summer and the Latics boss said: "Jes caught my eye when he played against us at Rochdale. He made a real impact and I was surprised he had not come onto my radar before.

"From that moment on, I've kept a close eye on him and earmarked him as someone I'd like to work with. He's young and he's got all the attributes to be a top player."

Mellon, meanwhile, has also signed midfielder Harry Charsley, 27, from Newport County.

NATIONAL LEAGUE - STEP 2 NEWS

BENBOW IS IN A RUSH TO COME BACK

ADAM STEVENS says it was a 'no-brainer' to bring Luke Benbow back to Rushall Olympic.

The 32-year-old has returned to Dales Lane for a second spell after a record breaking spell at Stourbridge, which yielded 155 goals in 283 appearances.

Benbow scored 18 goals for the Glassboys in Southern Premier Central last season before suffering a stress fracture in his spine at the end of 2023.

He was originally ruled out for the season but made an impressive recovery to return in March, only to suffer another setback.

Benbow joined back up with Stourbridge at the start of last season after four seasons at Nuneaton Borough, where he became a fans' favourite at Liberty Way.

Prior to that, he enjoyed a successful first spell with Rushall under now coach Richard Sneekes and assistant manager Steve Hinks.

"Luke needs no introduction, his record speaks for itself," boss Stevens said. "It was an absolute no-brainer bringing him in; he already knows the club inside out and is a natural goalscorer.

"He's always scored goals against me in the past so it will be nice to have him scoring goals for me this time around."

Pete scratches seven-year itch

POPULAR goalkeeper Pete Jameson is back between the sticks at Darlington – seven years after he left.

Jameson played a major part in steering the Quakers to two promotions into National League North, before moving on loan to South Shields in March 2017, and then to Blyth Spartans the following summer.

The 31-year-old stopper was then signed by current Quakers boss Steve Watson at York City before he moved up to the Football League with Harrogate Town, where he played 27 times in League Two.

Via a brief loan spell at Hartlepool, Jameson was released by Harrogate last month, prompting Watson to step in and offer him a one-year deal.

Jameson said: "With the gaffer and me having been here before, it was an easy decision for me to come back."

GREEN IS FOR GO AT CELTS

FARSLEY Celtic have strenghtened their squad ahead of their sixth season at Step 2 by bringing in attacking midfielder Danny Greenfield from league rivals Spennymoor Town.

The 23-year-old joins the Celts after two years at The Brewery Field, making 42 appearances in National League North last season, scoring five goals.

Overall, encompassing a loan spell at Scarborough Athletic, Greenfield has played over 100 games at Step 2.

Prior to that, the former Barnsley U18 had turned out for Gateshead and Matlock Town.

On joining the Celts, Greenfield said: "I'm buzzing. I had my first training session on Saturday and got to meet all of the boys. I already know quite a few of them so I'm really looking forward to getting going now."

NASH AIM TO SMASH IT AGAIN!

By Matt Badcock

CRAIG MAHON says Curzon Ashton's play-off finish last season was monumental – but they want to do it all over again.

The Nash finished seventh in the National League North season – a club record best-ever placing.

Defeat at Chorley in the play-off eliminator on penalties ultimately ended their campaign but player-boss Mahon couldn't have been prouder.

But what's done is done for the Irishman – he's determined they build on it.

"Obviously you look back and learn a lot from last season – what the group achieved was monumental," Mahon told *The NLP*.

"No one expected us to be there which, as I've said, played into our hands. We never put any pressure on to win. We just went out to play a game of football and enjoy it. They were fantastic.

"But, as we move onto the new season, some have moved on, we've got new players coming in and it's now down to myself, the management staff and the players still here from last year to set the bar higher.

"We have to set new standards and try to replicate what we did last year.

"It was one of the most successful seasons for Curzon. Our plan is to recreate that or get as close to it as we possibly can."

Signings like Isaac Buckley-Ricketts should only help with that ambition.

Characters

The 26-year-old forward has joined from division rivals Warrington Town where he hit 15 goals last season to earn himself a place in the National League North team of the season.

"We've kept the core of the group," Mahon said. "The lads who have re-signed are fantastic individuals on and off the pitch. It's then for us to try and add more potential in the young lads coming in – then Isaac is a fantastic signing for the club.

"It's amazing to have someone of his ability and quality playing for us. Our job as a management staff is now to get the best out of them. We've got great quality and great characters. It's down to us to make that shine through and give them the best possible chance."

Mahon, who will continue to be available as a player this season, and his squad travel to Jersey next weekend to play in The Bulls Cup.

Nash take on Wythenshawe Town at Springfield Stadium on Saturday afternoon with the opportunity to progress to a final against hosts Jersey Bulls or the Arthurian League on the Sunday.

And Mahon is also seeing the weekend on the channel island as prime time together as a group.

"It's something the club has never done before so when the opportunity came up it was a no brainer," the 35-year-old said.

"For ourselves it's a great way to get everybody together. We've got five or six lads coming in that need to be integrated into a squad that's been together for the last two or three years. So it's a great opportunity for us to get to know each other and get to know the lads.

"And not just on a football basis. I am really into getting to know lads on a personal basis – whether it's their family, friends, what they've done in life, their careers. It's getting to know them as a human being.

"It's understanding the person before the player. I am massive on family so I like to know as much as I can about the lads I am working with. What they do for a living, have they got kids, what are their interests and hobbies.

"Anything like that can help us when we're during the season – whether it's time off, they might have their kid's birthday party. It's seeing any way we can help them out because when we looked after lads last season, they have always given back ten-fold."

Friendship

And Mahon believes that approach is all part of the players enjoying what they do.

"Non-League football is maybe not the most luxurious but you are getting paid to play football," Mahon said. "Regardless if it's a small amount or a large amount, you're very lucky to earn money to do something we love.

"These lads are going to be together for the next eight or nine months so they become your family because you see them that often.

"You've got to create that friendship bond and enjoy being with each other. If you win, you win, if you lose, you lose. You've got to keep going and working hard.

"There's no pressure on them again this year. It's just go out and do the best you can. Come February we'll see where we are and what we need to do."



AGAINST ALL ODDS: Craig Mahon is once more looking to fire up last season's surprise package, Curzon Ashton
PICTURE: Rick Matthews

SOL Solomon hailed a "special moment" after realising his dream of becoming a professional footballer in the EFL.

The 23-year-old ex-Jersey Bulls and Marine striker has joined League Two Tranmere Rovers. He hit 24 goals last term as Marine won promotion via the NPL Premier play-offs.

"It's something I've worked hard for all my career – it's a special moment for me and my family," he told Tranmere's YouTube channel.

However, winger Fin Sinclair-Smith, 24, has re-signed for Marine. He had been unveiled at Radcliffe earlier this summer but has now returned to the Mariners.

A RAW DEAL SUITS SEALS!

By Jon Couch

CALUM MCINTYRE says Chester FC are slowly building a homegrown squad that the fans can be proud of.

The Seals boss was left beaming at his most recent piece of transfer business after luring Chester-born defender Connell Rawlinson to the Deva Stadium from League Two Notts County.

And the 30-year-old boss believes the experienced defender encompasses everything he wants the club to represent as they seek a route back in to Non-League's top-flight.

"We have a group with all the attributes that our passionate supporter base demand from a Chester team," McIntyre said on Rawlinson's unveiling.

"Our group understand what it is to represent this club and we are determined to deliver in the months ahead.

"Connell will really upskill the group and I expect his leadership qualities to be massive.

"We now have the personnel to be flexible in a back three or a back four and have several players who are extremely comfortable in multiple positions.

"This was always going to be important in a smaller group."

Familiar faces

Rawlinson, 32, returns to the club he made his professional debut for as a substitute against Oxford United in 2009.

After making three first-team appearances for the Blues, he moved to The New Saints, where he made 180 appearances in a spell which saw him pick up seven straight Welsh Premier League medals.

Rawlinson moved back to the English leagues in 2018 when he signed for Port Vale and featured 36 times for the Valiants, before completing a switch to Notts County, where he won promotion from the National League in 2023 after a play-off final victory over Chesterfield.

In all, Rawlinson made 153 appearances for the Magpies, including a full season in League Two last season, and now joins his hometown club on a one-year deal.

"The gaffer and I have been speaking for a few weeks now and there were a few things I had to tie up, but I'm delighted to get it over the line," Rawlinson said.

"Obviously, I've got previous with Chester. I did my YTS here many moons ago, so it will be nice to get back and see a few familiar faces.

"Coming back home was a massive part of my decision.

"I've spent the majority of the back end of my career away from my family, so it's ideal to be able to come back.

Close-knit

"My wife is about to have out third baby so it was the perfect opportunity for me to come back to a club which meant a lot to me and helped me carve out the career I have had."

McIntyre is looking to improve on a disappointing 10th place finish last year – and says bringing another homegrown favourite back to the Deva is another step to building a close-knit, family environment that the fans can relate to.

"I am absolutely delighted to have added a player of Connell's pedigree to the group," manager McIntyre said of his seventh summer signing.

"The perfect circumstances have developed to allow us to secure a Football League centre-half of enormous personality and physical presence.

"It is something we have wanted to do all summer so I am pleased to have finally got this one over the line."



SHAPING UP: Calum McIntyre



MAKING THE MOVE: Experienced defender Connell Rawlinson has joined Chester from Notts County

PICTURE: Alamy

KENNEDY'S IN WINGS GENES

WELLING United boss Rod Stringer has secured the return of midfielder Gene Kennedy on a permanent basis.

Kennedy initially arrived on loan from Colchester United in February and went on the play a key part in the Wings' successful fight against relegation.

Now Stringer has snapped up the 21-year-old on a permanent basis following his release by the U's this summer.

Kennedy said: "I had the loan last year and I loved it – working with Rod, Kev (Watson, assistant) and the boys. I enjoyed the battle of staying up and, hopefully, this season we're up there. If we can play like we were, it will be really exciting."

It's Millar time – permanently

FARNBOROUGH have snapped up striker Millar Matthews-Lewis on a permanent deal following his departure from Luton Town.

The powerful 20-year-old arrived at Boro on loan in January and played a crucial role as Spencer Day's men made an impressive late play-off push towards the end of last season.

Now, on being released after six years with the Hatters, Matthews-Lewis is heading back to the Saunders Transport Community Stadium, looking to kick on once again.

"When I joined in January, the four months I was here was brilliant," he said. "It was my first loan, but I fitted in straight away and it was a really good experience for me, so coming back is even better."

KING IS BACK WITH SAINTS

ST ALBANS City have announced a second return of the king – centre-back David Longe-King.

Longe-King first joined the Saints from Colney Heath nine years ago but made just five appearances before moving on to Dunstable Town.

After winning an England C cap while playing for Biggleswade Town, Longe-King returned to Saints for the 2019/20 season where he was picked up by League Two Newport County.

A spell at Grimsby Town led to a loan at Woking before Longe-King joined Dagenham & Redbridge, where he spent two years before joining Eastleigh on a loan deal towards the end of last season.

Bobby adds four more at Tudors

BOBBY Wilkinson has continued his rebuild of Hemel Hempstead Town with a quartet of signings.

The Tudors chief has snapped up talented 19-year-old centre-back Ben Tompkins, from Braintree Town, to coincide with the return of midfielder Bayley Brown after a spell at Hampton & Richmond Borough.

And they followed the arrival of forward Eoin McKeown and defender Max Statham following recent spells at Buxton and Dartford respectively.

"It's been a busy summer," Wilkinson told the club's website. "We had to rebuild from the bottom so we had to make sure we brought some good players to the football club and I feel we are doing that."

FA CUP, TROPHY & VASE 2024-25

THE EMIRATES FA CUP EXTRA PRELIMINARY ROUND

SATURDAY, 3 AUGUST 2024
WINNERS RECEIVE £1,125
LOSERS RECEIVE £375

No	Home		Away
1	Crook Tn AFC	v	Marske Utd
2	Consett AFC	v	Redcar Athletic
3	West Auckland Tn	v	Bishop Auckland
4	Newcastle Benfield	v	Knaresborough Tn
5	Garforth Tn	v	Northallerton Tn
6	Kendal Tn	v	Guisborough Tn
7	Whickham	v	Carlisle City
8	Boro Rngrs	v	West Allotment Celtic
9	Shildon AFC	v	Ashington
10	Beverley Tn	v	Whitley Bay
11	Heaton Stannington	v	Easington Colliery
12	Birtley Tn	v	Bridlington Tn AFC
13	Tow Law Tn AFC	v	Blyth Tn
14	North Shields	v	Newcastle Blue Star_
15	Tadcaster Albion	v	Seaham Red Star
16	Penrith AFC	v	Pickering Tn
17	Colne	v	Mossley AFC
18	Longridge Tn	v	Cheadle Tn
19	Sheffield	v	Nantwich Tn
20	Ossett Utd	v	Widnes
21	Vauxhall Motors	v	Eccleshill Utd
22	AFC Liverpool	v	Abbey Hey
23	Wythenshawe Tn	v	Chadderton
24	Whitchurch Alport	v	Irlam
25	Thackley AFC	v	Frickley Athletic
26	Stocksbridge Park Steels	v	Prestwich Heys AFC
27	W Didsbury & Chorlton AFC	v	Burscough
28	Penistone Church	v	Charnock Richard
29	Ramsbottom Utd	v	Stalybridge Celtic
30	Barnoldswick Tn	v	Brighouse Tn AFC
31	Liversedge	v	Silsden AFC
32	Albion Sports	v	Trafford
33	Campion AFC	v	Parkgate
34	Padiham	v	Golcar Utd
35	Wythenshawe	v	Pilkington
36	Northwich Victoria	v	Squires Gate
37	Handsworth	v	South Liverpool
38	Congleton Tn	v	Bury_FC
39	Hallam	v	Lower Breck
40	Stockport Tn	v	1874 Northwich
41	Litherland Remyca	v	Glossop North End
42	Emley AFC	v	FC St Helens
43	Brocton	v	Tividale
44	Wolverhampton Casuals	v	Rugby Tn
45	Lutterworth Tn	v	Studley
46	Coventry Sphinx	v	Ashby Ivanhoe
47	OJM Black Country Comm.	v	Chasetown
48	Rugby Borough	v	Darlaston Tn
49	Kidsgrove Athletic	v	Pershore Tn
50	AFC Wulfrunians	v	Atherstone Tn
51	Sporting Khalsa	v	Coventry Utd
52	Sutton Coldfield Tn	v	Romulus
53	Hinckley AFC	v	Highgate Utd
54	Westfields	v	Daventry Tn
55	Worcester Raiders	v	Stourport Swifts
56	Racing Club Warwick	v	Hednesford Tn
57	Stone Old Alleynians	v	Bedworth Utd
58	Hanley Tn	v	Boldmere St Michaels
59	Worcester City	v	Walsall Wood
60	Uttoxeter Tn	v	Heanor Tn
61	Shifnal Tn	v	Belper Utd
62	Malvern Tn	v	Hereford Pegasus
63	Sporting Club Inkberrow	v	Dudley Tn
64	Evesham Utd	v	Newcastle Tn
65	Coleshill Tn	v	Eastwood Community
66	Gresley Rovers	v	Lichfield City
67	Corby Tn	v	AFC Rushden & Diamonds
68	Grimsby Borough	v	GNG Oadby Tn
69	Leicester Nirvana	v	Northampton On Chenecks
70	Rossington Main	v	AFC Mansfield
71	Shirebrook Tn	v	Deeping Rngrs
72	Bourne Tn	v	Aylestone Park
73	Yaxley	v	Godmanchester Rovers
74	Barton Tn	v	Newark Tn
75	Lincoln Utd	v	Goole AFC
76	Melton Tn_	v	Harrowby Utd
77	Shepshed Dynamo	v	Winterton Rngrs
78	Sherwood Colliery	v	Grantham Tn
79	Kimberley Miners Welfare	v	Cleethorpes Tn
80	Skegness Tn AFC	v	Newark & Sherwood Utd
81	Wellingborough Tn	v	Sleaford Tn
82	Bugbrooke St Michaels	v	Loughborough Students
83	Northampton Sileby Rngrs	v	Boston Tn
84	Hucknall Tn	v	Bottesford Tn
85	Dereham Tn	v	Wisbech Tn
86	Ely City	v	Mulbarton Wanderers
87	Sheringham	v	Woodbridge Tn
88	Cambridge City	v	Lakenheath
89	Harleston Tn_	v	Heacham
90	Great Yarmouth Tn	v	Kirkley & Pakefield
91	Wroxham	v	Walsham Le Willows
92	Thetford Tn	v	Ipswich Wanderers
93	Stowmarket Tn	v	Histon
94	Cornard Utd	v	Fakenham Tn
95	Newmarket Tn	v	March Tn Utd
96	Gorleston	v	Hadleigh Utd
97	Long Melford	v	Downham Tn
98	Soham Tn Rngrs	v	Mildenhall Tn
99	Great Wakering Rovers	v	Redbridge
100	Newport Pagnell Tn	v	Ilford
101	Stansted	v	Biggleswade
102	Leverstock Green	v	Baldock Tn
103	Eynesbury Rovers	v	Romford
104	Tring Athletic	v	Barking
105	Biggleswade Utd	v	Frenford
106	Milton Keynes Irish	v	Welwyn Garden City
107	Witham Tn	v	Hertford Tn
108	London Lions	v	Arlesey Tn
109	Colney Heath	v	Takeley
110	Cockfosters	v	Kings Langley
111	Sawbridgeworth Tn	v	FC Romania
112	Real Bedford	v	St Neots Tn
113	West Essex	v	Enfield_
114	Little Oakley	v	Dunstable Tn
115	Basildon Utd	v	Hadley
116	Shefford Tn & Campton	v	Brantham Athletic
117	FC Clacton	v	Leighton Tn
118	Kempston Rovers	v	Brightlingsea Regent
119	Potton Utd	v	White Ensign
120	Barton Rovers	v	Saffron Walden Tn
121	Heybridge Swifts	v	Wormley Rovers
122	Benfleet	v	Woodford Tn
123	Grays Athletic	v	Hullbridge Sports
124	Edgware & Kingsbury	v	Crawley Green
125	Stanway Rovers Community	v	Maldon & Tiptree
126	Tilbury	v	Buckhurst Hill
127	Harpenden Tn	v	Halstead Tn
128	Portishead Tn	v	Easington Sports
129	Tuffley Rovers	v	Kidlington
130	Malmesbury Victoria	v	Slimbridge AFC
131	Reading City	v	Ardley Utd
132	Lydney Tn AFC	v	Thornbury Tn
133	Burnham	v	Corsham Tn
134	Brislington	v	Wallingford & Crowmarsh
135	Flackwell Heath	v	Aylesbury Vale Dynamos
136	Binfield	v	Wokingham & Emmbrook
137	Longlevens	v	Winslow Utd
138	Cinderford Tn	v	Nailsea & Tickenham
139	Virginia Water	v	Brimscombe & Thrupp
140	Ascot Utd	v	Milton Utd
141	Thame Utd	v	Aylesbury Utd
142	Oldland Abbotonians	v	Amersham Tn
143	Highworth Tn	v	Bishop's Cleeve
144	Roman Glass St George	v	North Leigh
145	Fairford Tn	v	Cirencester Tn
146	Hartpury University	v	Risborough Rngrs
147	Yate Tn	v	Holyport
148	Berks County	v	Clevedon Tn
149	Royal Wootton Bassett Tn	v	Mangotsfield Utd
150	British Airways	v	Loxwood
151	Horsham YMCA	v	Newhaven
152	Larkfield & New Hythe	v	Kennington
153	Rayners Lane	v	Broadfields Utd
154	Littlehampton Tn	v	Tooting & Mitcham Utd
155	Cobham	v	Uxbridge
156	Chipstead	v	Athletic Newham
157	Peacehaven & Telscombe	v	Shoreham
158	Hanworth Villa	v	Knaphill
159	Deal Tn	v	Roffey
160	Epsom & Ewell	v	Phoenix Sports
161	Saltdean Utd	v	AFC Varndeanians
162	North Greenford Utd	v	Corinthian Casuals
163	Steyning Tn Community	v	Hilltop
164	Merstham	v	Wick
165	Wembley	v	Bedfont Sports Club
166	Abbey Rngrs	v	Hythe Tn
167	Punjab Utd	v	Snodland Tn
168	Hassocks	v	Haywards Heath Tn
169	Broadbridge Heath	v	Horley Tn
170	Badshot Lea	v	Stansfeld
171	Sevenoaks Tn	v	Whitstable Tn
172	Fisher	v	Redhill
173	Tunbridge Wells	v	Farnham Tn
174	Balham	v	Midhurst & Easebourne
175	Holmesdale	v	Crawley Down Gatwick
176	Lordswood	v	Erith & Belvedere
177	Eastbourne Tn	v	Little Common
178	Ashford Utd	v	Egham Tn
179	Bexhill Utd	v	Faversham Tn
180	Northwood	v	Ashford Tn (Middx)
181	Spelthorne Sports	v	Burgess Hill Tn
182	Camberley Tn	v	Lydd Tn
183	Sheerwater	v	Rusthall
184	Beckenham Tn	v	Harefield Utd
185	Lingfield	v	Hollands & Blair
186	AFC Croydon Athletic	v	Guildford City
187	South Park (Reigate)	v	Sutton Common Rovers
188	Corinthian	v	AFC Whyteleafe
189	Sutton Athletic	v	Sandhurst Tn
190	Erith Tn	v	Pagham
191	Glebe	v	East Grinstead Tn
192	Metropolitan Police	v	VCD Athletic
193	Eastbourne Utd AFC	v	Sporting Bengal Utd
194	Crowborough Athletic	v	Bearsted
195	Tadley Calleva	v	Millbrook (Hampshire)
196	Fareham Tn	v	Sherborne Tn
197	AFC Portchester	v	Utd Services Portsmouth
198	Melksham Tn	v	Welton Rovers
199	Thatcham Tn	v	Christchurch
200	Bournemouth	v	Shaftesbury
201	Portland Utd	v	Hamworthy Recreation
202	Baffins Milton Rovers	v	Petersfield Tn
203	Hamble Club	v	Westbury Utd
204	Alton	v	Fleet Tn
205	Andover New Street	v	Hythe & Dibden
206	Laverstock & Ford	v	Cowes Sports
207	Bemerton Heath Harlequins	v	Brockenhurst
208	Hartley Wintney	v	Downton
209	Shepton Mallet AFC	v	Horndean
210	Moneyfields	v	AFC Stoneham
211	Paulton Rovers	v	Bashley
212	Wincanton Tn	v	Blackfield & Langley
213	Falmouth Tn AFC	v	Torpoint Athletic
214	Exmouth Tn	v	Street
215	Ilfracombe Tn	v	Tavistock AFC
216	St Blazey	v	Ivybridge Tn
217	Barnstaple Tn	v	Helston Athletic
218	Brixham AFC	v	Saltash Utd AFC
219	Willand Rovers	v	AFC St Austell
220	Wellington AFC	v	Buckland Athletic
221	Bideford AFC	v	Bridgwater Utd



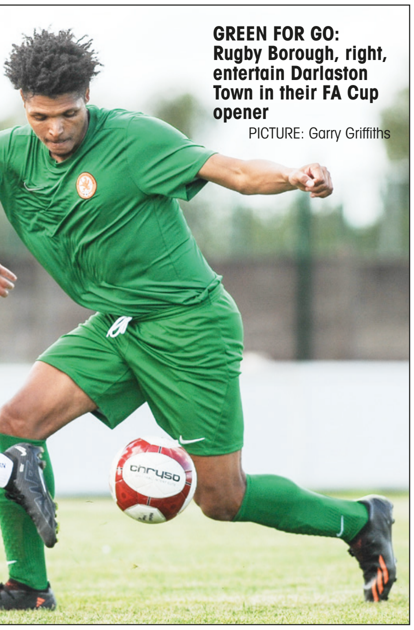
BRING IT ON: West Didsbury host Burscough in the FA Cup extra preliminary round



PRELIMINARY ROUND

SATURDAY, 17 AUGUST 2024
WINNERS RECEIVE £1,444
LOSERS RECEIVE £481

No	Home		Away
1	Garforth Tn or Northallerton Tn	v	Heaton Stannington or Easington Colliery
2	North Shields or Newcastle Blue Star	v	North Ferriby
3	Newton Aycliffe	v	Beverley Tn or Whitley Bay
4	Boro Rangers or West Allotment Celtic	v	Tadcaster Albion or Seaham Red Star
5	Tow Law Tn or Blyth Tn	v	Birtley Tn or Bridlington Tn
6	Whickham or Carlisle City	v	Dunston
7	Kendal Tn or Guisborough Tn	v	Newcastle Benfield or Knaresborough Tn
8	Pontefract Collieries	v	Consett or Redcar Athletic
9	Penrith or Pickering Tn	v	Crook Tn or Marske Utd
10	Shildon or Ashington	v	West Auckland Tn or Bishop Auckland
11	Longridge Tn or Cheadle Tn	v	Stockport Tn or 1874 Northwich
12	Ramsbottom Utd or Stalybridge Celtic	v	Ossett Utd or Widnes
13	Runcorn Linnets	v	Wythenshawe Tn or Chadderton
14	Campion or Parkgate	v	AFC Liverpool or Abbey Hey
15	Albion Sports or Trafford	v	Emley or FC St Helens
16	Handsworth or South Liverpool	v	Witton Albion
17	Liversedge or Silsden	v	Atherton Collieries
18	Hallam or Lower Breck	v	Penistone Church or Charnock Richard
19	Barnoldswick Tn or Brighouse Tn	v	Northwich Victoria or Squires Gate
20	Clitheroe	v	Sheffield or Nantwich Tn
21	Avro	v	Congleton Tn or Bury
22	Bootle	v	City of Liverpool
23	Bradford (Park Avenue)	v	Stocksbridge Park Steels or Prestwich Heys
24	Colne or Mossley	v	Vauxhall Motors or Eccleshill Utd
25	Padiham or Golcar Utd	v	Thackley or Frickley Athletic
26	Litherland Remyca or Glossop North End	v	West Didsbury & Chorlton or Burscough
27	Whitchurch Alport or Irlam	v	Wythenshawe or Pilkington



GREEN FOR GO: Rugby Borough, right, entertain Darlaston Town in their FA Cup opener PICTURE: Garry Griffiths

No.	Home		Away
28	AFC Wulfrunians	v	Kidsgrove Athletic
	or Atherstone Tn		or Pershore Tn
29	Wolverhampton Casuals	v	Stone Old Alleynians
	or Rugby Tn		or Bedworth Utd
30	Hanley Tn	v	Stafford Rangers
	or Boldmere St Michaels		
31	Brocton	v	Coleshill Tn
	or Tividale		or Eastwood Community
32	Worcester Raiders	v	Racing Club Warwick
	or Stourport Swifts		or Hednesford Tn
33	Westfields	v	Evesham Utd
	or Daventry Tn		or Newcastle Tn
34	Uttoxeter Tn	v	Hinckley LR
	or Heanor Tn		
35	Worcester City	v	Sporting Club Inkberrow
	or Walsall Wood		or Dudley Tn
36	Belper Tn	v	Lutterworth Tn
			or Studley
37	Shifnal Tn	v	Sutton Coldfield Tn
	or Belper Utd		or Romulus
38	OJM Black Country	v	Coventry Sphinx
	or Chasetown		or Ashby Ivanhoe
39	Hinckley AFC	v	Malvern Tn
	or Highgate Utd		or Hereford Pegasus
40	Gresley Rovers	v	Sporting Khalsa
	or Lichfield City		or Coventry Utd
41	Rugby Borough	v	Lye Tn
	or Darlaston Tn		
42	Rossington Main	v	Carlton Tn
	or AFC Mansfield		
43	Bourne Tn	v	Wellingborough Tn
	or Aylestone Park		or Sleaford Tn
44	Yaxley	v	Sherwood Colliery
	or Godmanchester Rovers		or Grantham Tn
45	Skegness Tn	v	Corby Tn
	or Newark & Sherwood Utd		or AFC Rushden & Diamonds
46	Long Eaton Utd	v	Northampton Sileby Rangers
			or Boston Tn
47	Kimberley Miners Welfare	v	Quorn
	or Cleethorpes Tn		
48	Hucknall Tn	v	Shepshed Dynamo
	or Bottesford Tn		or Winterton Rangers
49	Leicester Nirvana	v	Barton Tn
	or Northampton On Chenecks		or Newark Tn
50	Grimsby Borough	v	Anstey Nomads
	or GNG Oadby Tn		
51	Lincoln Utd	v	Melton Tn
	or Goole		or Harrowby Utd
52	Shirebrook Tn	v	Bugbrooke St Michaels
	or Deeping Rangers		or Loughborough Students
53	Ely City	v	Gorleston
	or Mulbarton Wanderers		or Hadleigh Utd
54	Bury Tn	v	Felixstowe & Walton Utd
55	Stowmarket Tn	v	Cornard Utd
	or Histon		or Fakenham Tn
56	Soham Tn Rangers	v	Harleston Tn
	or Mildenhall Tn		or Heacham
57	Wroxham	v	Newmarket Tn
	or Walsham Le Willows		or March Tn Utd
58	Long Melford	v	Thetford Tn
	or Downham Tn		or Ipswich Wanderers
59	Great Yarmouth Tn	v	Cambridge City
	or Kirkley & Pakefield		or Lakenheath
60	Dereham Tn	v	Sheringham
	or Wisbech Tn		or Woodbridge Tn
61	Tilbury	v	Stanway Rovers
	or Buckhurst Hill		or Maldon & Tiptree
62	Potton Utd	v	Shefford Tn & Campton
	or White Ensign		or Brantham Athletic
63	Real Bedford	v	Edgware & Kingsbury
	or St Neots Tn		or Crawley Green
64	Concord Rangers	v	Milton Keynes Irish
			or Welwyn Garden City
65	Benfleet	v	Haringey Borough
	or Woodford Tn		
66	Newport Pagnell Tn	v	AFC Dunstable
	or Ilford		
67	FC Clacton	v	Waltham Abbey
	or Leighton Tn		
68	Biggleswade Utd	v	West Essex
	or Frenford		or Enfield
69	Stansted	v	London Lions
	or Biggleswade		or Arlesey Tn
70	Leverstock Green	v	Heybridge Swifts
	or Baldock Tn		or Wormley Rovers
71	Stotfold	v	Colney Heath
			or Takeley
72	Grays Athletic	v	Witham Tn
	or Hullbridge Sports		or Hertford Tn
73	Walthamstow	v	Barton Rovers
			or Saffron Walden Tn
74	Ware	v	Brentwood Tn
75	Great Wakering Rovers	v	Tring Athletic
	or Redbridge		or Barking
76	Harpenden Tn	v	Sawbridgeworth Tn
	or Halstead Tn		or FC Romania
77	Little Oakley	v	Berkhamsted
	or Dunstable Tn		
78	Basildon Utd	v	Cockfosters
	or Hadley		or Kings Langley
79	Kempston Rovers	v	Eynesbury Rovers
	or Brightlingsea Regent		or Romford
80	Royal Wootton Bassett Tn	v	Didcot Tn
	or Mangotsfield Utd		
81	Thame Utd	v	Beaconsfield Tn
	or Aylesbury Utd		
82	Flackwell Heath	v	Burnham
	or Aylesbury Vale Dynamos		or Corsham Tn
83	Cribbs	v	Roman Glass St George
			or North Leigh
84	Oldland Abbotonians	v	Berks County
	or Amersham Tn		or Clevedon Tn
85	Brislington	v	Malmesbury Victoria
	or Wallingford & Crowmarsh		or Slimbridge
86	Reading City	v	Cinderford Tn
	or Ardley Utd		or Nailsea & Tickenham
87	Tuffley Rovers	v	Yate Tn
	or Kidlington		or Holyport
88	Virginia Water	v	Ascot Utd
	or Brimscombe & Thrupp		or Milton Utd
89	Fairford Tn	v	Hartpury University
	or Cirencester Tn		or Risborough Rangers
90	Longlevens	v	Binfield
	or Winslow Utd		or Wokingham & Emmbrook
91	Highworth Tn	v	Lydney Tn
	or Bishop's Cleeve		or Thornbury Tn
92	Portishead Tn	v	Bristol Manor Farm
	or Easington Sports		
93	Sevenoaks Tn	v	Leatherhead
	or Whitstable Tn		
94	Steyning Tn Community	v	Holmesdale
	or Hilltop		or Crawley Down Gatwick
95	Northwood	v	Cobham or Uxbridge
	or Ashford Tn (Middx)		
96	Crowborough Athletic	v	South Park (Reigate)
	or Bearsted		or Sutton Common Rovers
97	Harrow Borough	v	Ashford Utd
			or Egham Tn
98	Ramsgate	v	Southall
99	Horsham YMCA	v	Broadbridge Heath
	or Newhaven		or Horley Tn
100	North Greenford Utd	v	Sheppey Utd
	or Corinthian Casuals		
101	AFC Croydon Athletic	v	Metropolitan Police
	or Guildford City		or VCD Athletic
102	Herne Bay	v	Rayners Lane
			or Broadfields Utd
103	Corinthian	v	Camberley Tn
	or AFC Whyteleafe		or Lydd Tn
104	Kingstonian	v	Eastbourne Utd
			or Sporting Bengal Utd
105	Margate	v	British Airways
			or Loxwood
106	Epsom & Ewell	v	Hayes & Yeading Utd
	or Phoenix Sports		
107	Beckenham Tn	v	Sutton Athletic
	or Harefield Utd		or Sandhurst Tn
108	Lordswood	v	Peacehaven & Telscombe
	or Erith & Belvedere		or Shoreham
109	Merstham	v	Erith Tn
	or Wick		or Pagham
110	Saltdean Utd	v	Three Bridges
	or AFC Varndeanians		
111	Hassocks	v	Deal Tn
	or Haywards Heath Tn		or Roffey
112	Hanworth Villa	v	Abbey Rangers
	or Knaphill		or Hythe Tn
113	Larkfield & New Hythe	v	Lingfield
	or Kennington		or Hollands & Blair
114	Littlehampton Tn	v	Bexhill Utd
	or Tooting & Mitcham Utd		or Faversham Tn
115	Tunbridge Wells	v	Sittingbourne
	or Farnham Tn		
116	Wembley	v	Raynes Park Vale
	or Bedfont Sports		
117	Badshot Lea	v	Balham
	or Stansfeld		or Midhurst & Easebourne
118	Lancing	v	Chipstead
			or Athletic Newham
119	Spelthorne Sports	v	Eastbourne Tn
	or Burgess Hill Tn		or Little Common
120	Sheerwater	v	Punjab Utd
	or Rusthall		or Snodland Tn
121	Glebe	v	Fisher or Redhill
	or East Grinstead Tn		
122	Thatcham Tn	v	Andover New Street
	or Christchurch		or Hythe & Dibden
123	Hartley Wintney	v	Larkhall Athletic
	or Downton		
124	Wincanton Tn	v	Alton
	or Blackfield & Langley		or Fleet Tn
125	Baffins Milton Rovers	v	Shepton Mallet
	or Petersfield Tn		or Horndean
126	Bemerton Hth Harlequins	v	Laverstock & Ford
	or Brockenhurst		or Cowes Sports
127	Portland Utd	v	Paulton Rovers
	or Hamworthy Recreation		or Bashley
128	Bournemouth	v	Melksham Tn
	or Shaftesbury		or Welton Rovers
129	Westfield	v	Fareham Tn
			or Sherborne Tn
130	Moneyfields	v	Tadley Calleva
	or AFC Stoneham		or Millbrook (Hampshire)
131	Hamble Club	v	AFC Portchester
	or Westbury Utd		or Utd Services Portsmouth
132	Barnstaple Tn	v	Falmouth Tn
	or Helston Athletic		or Torpoint Athletic
133	Mousehole	v	Willand Rovers
			or AFC St Austell
134	Exmouth Tn	v	Brixham
	or Street		or Saltash Utd
135	St Blazey	v	Ilfracombe Tn
	or Ivybridge Tn		or Tavistock
136	Bideford	v	Wellington AFC
	or Bridgwater Utd		or Buckland Athletic

THE ISUZU FA TROPHY PRELIMINARY ROUND

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST 2024

WINNERS RECEIVE £1,500
LOSERS RECEIVE £400

No.	Home		Away
1	Congleton Tn	v	Ashington
2	City of Liverpool	v	Bootle
3	Lye Tn	v	Anstey Nomads
4	Long Eaton Utd	v	Stafford Rngrs
5	AFC Dunstable	v	Concord Rngrs
6	Biggleswade	v	Hertford Tn
7	Littlehampton Tn	v	Rayners Lane
8	Moneyfields	v	Hayes & Yeading Utd
9	Ashford Tn (Middx)	v	Ascot Utd
10	South Park (Reigate)	v	Steyning Tn Community
11	Lancing	v	Southall
12	Farnham Tn	v	Erith Tn
13	Cribbs	v	Thatcham Tn
14	Didcot Tn	v	Helston Athletic

THE ISUZU FA TROPHY FIRST ROUND QUALIFYING

SATURDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2024

WINNERS RECEIVE £1,500
LOSERS RECEIVE £400

No.	Home		Away
1	Heaton Stannington	v	North Ferriby
2	Congleton Tn	v	Wythenshawe
	or Ashington		
3	Bishop Auckland	v	Nantwich Tn
4	Stalybridge Celtic	v	Ossett Utd
5	Liversedge	v	Avro
6	Garforth Tn	v	Wythenshawe Tn
7	City of Liverpool	v	Mossley
	or Bootle		
8	Emley	v	Dunston
9	Bridlington Tn	v	Trafford
10	Runcorn Linnets	v	Pontefract Collieries
11	Brighouse Tn	v	Clitheroe
12	Consett	v	Atherton Collieries
13	Vauxhall Motors	v	Newton Aycliffe
14	Stocksbridge Park Steels	v	Widnes
15	Witton Albion	v	Bradford (Park Avenue)
16	Hednesford Tn	v	Quorn
17	Kidsgrove Athletic	v	AFC Rushden & Diamonds
18	Grantham Tn	v	Coleshill Tn
19	Sutton Coldfield Tn	v	Newcastle Tn
20	Sheffield	v	Loughborough Students
21	Grimsby Borough	v	Chasetown
22	Bedworth Utd	v	Sherwood Colliery
23	Darlaston Tn	v	Cleethorpes Tn
24	Belper Tn	v	Boldmere St Michaels
25	Rugby Tn	v	Carlton Tn
26	Racing Club Warwick	v	Hanley Tn
27	Lye Tn	v	Shepshed Dynamo
	or Anstey Nomads		
28	Coventry Sphinx	v	Sporting Khalsa
29	Worcester City	v	Hinckley LR
30	Wellingborough Tn	v	Corby Tn
31	Walsall Wood	v	Long Eaton Utd
			or Stafford Rngrs
32	Felixstowe & Walton Utd	v	Basildon Utd
33	Tilbury	v	Welwyn Garden City
34	Leighton Tn	v	Stotfold
35	Enfield	v	Biggleswade
			or Hertford Tn
36	Heybridge Swifts	v	Maldon & Tiptree
37	Wroxham	v	Aylesbury Utd
38	Hadley	v	Grays Athletic
39	Walthamstow	v	Real Bedford
40	Redbridge	v	Haringey Borough
41	Leverstock Green	v	Bury Tn
42	Barton Rovers	v	Waltham Abbey
43	Mildenhall Tn	v	Brightlingsea Regent
44	AFC Dunstable	v	Berkhamsted
	or Concord Rngrs		
45	Ware	v	Newmarket Tn
46	Brentwood Tn	v	Witham Tn
47	Cambridge City	v	Kings Langley
48	Ipswich Wanderers	v	Gorleston
49	Uxbridge	v	Phoenix Sports
50	Hartley Wintney	v	East Grinstead Tn
51	Sheppey Utd	v	Ramsgate
52	Raynes Park Vale	v	Beckenham Tn
53	Badshot Lea	v	Broadbridge Heath
54	Horndean	v	Binfield
55	Deal Tn	v	Ashford Utd
56	Hanworth Villa	v	Margate
57	Three Bridges	v	Hythe Tn
58	Westf ield	v	Metropolitan Police
59	Littlehampton Tn	v	Sporting Bengal Utd
	or Rayners Lane		
60	Ashford Tn (Middx)	v	Merstham
	or Ascot Utd		
61	Sevenoaks Tn	v	Harrow Borough

FA CUP, TROPHY & VASE 2024-25

62 Farnham Tn v Flackwell Heath or Erith Tn
63 South Park (Reigate) v Thame Utd or Steyning Tn Community
64 Kingstonian v Eastbourne Tn
65 Herne Bay v Northwood
66 Lancing or Southall v Burgess Hill Tn
67 AFC Croydon Athletic v Beaconsf ield Tn
68 Moneyfields v Leatherhead or Hayes & Yeading Utd
69 Sittingbourne v Sutton Common Rovers
70 Willand Rovers v Bishop's Cleeve
71 Bashley v Mousehole
72 Didcot Tn v Melksham Tn or Helston Athletic
73 Shaftesbury v North Leigh
74 Exmouth Tn v Kidlington
75 Bemerton Hth Harlequins v Yate Tn
76 Bideford v Malvern Tn
77 Falmouth Tn v Cinderford Tn
78 Cribbs v Evesham Utd or Thatcham Tn
79 Bristol Manor Farm v Westbury Utd
80 Tavistock v Larkhall Athletic

24 CLUBS EXEMPT TO THIRD ROUND PROPER

STEP 1 OF THE FA NATIONAL LEAGUE SYSTEM

AFC Fylde, Aldershot Tn FC, Altrincham FC, Barnet FC, Boston Utd FC, Braintree Tn FC, Dagenham & Redbridge FC, Eastleigh FC, Ebbsfleet Utd FC, FC Halifax Tn, Forest Green Rovers FC, Gateshead FC, Hartlepool Utd FC, Maidenhead Utd FC, Oldham Athletic AFC, Rochdale AFC, Solihull Moors FC, Southend Utd FC, Sutton Utd FC, Tamworth FC, Wealdstone FC, Woking FC, Yeovil Tn FC, York City FC

48 CLUBS EXEMPT TO SECOND RND PROPER

STEP 2 OF THE FA NATIONAL LEAGUE SYSTEM

Alfreton Tn FC, Aveley FC, Bath City FC, Boreham Wood FC, Brackley Tn FC, Buxton FC, Chelmsford City FC, Chesham Utd FC, Chester FC, Chippenham Tn FC, Chorley FC, Curzon Ashton FC, Darlington FC, Dorking Wanderers FC, Eastbourne Borough FC, Enfield Tn FC, Farnborough FC, Farsley Celtic FC, Hampton & Richmond Borough FC, Hemel Hempstead Tn FC, Hereford FC, Hornchurch FC, Kidderminster Harriers FC, King's Lynn Tn FC, Leamington FC, Maidstone Utd FC, Marine FC, Needham Market FC, Oxford City FC, Peterborough Sports FC, Radcliffe FC, Rushall Olympic FC, Salisbury FC, Scarborough Athletic FC, Scunthorpe Utd FC, Slough Tn FC, South Shields FC, Southport FC, Spennymoor Tn FC, St Albans City FC, Tonbridge Angels FC, Torquay Utd FC, Truro City FC, Warrington Tn FC, Welling Utd FC, Weston Super Mare FC, Weymouth FC, Worthing FC

88 CLUBS EXEMPT TO THIRD RND QUALIFYING

STEP 3 OF THE FA NATIONAL LEAGUE SYSTEM

AFC Sudbury, AFC Telford Utd, AFC Totton, Alvechurch FC, Ashton Utd FC, Bamber Bridge FC, Banbury Utd FC, Barwell FC, Basford Utd FC, Basingstoke Tn FC, Bedford Tn FC, Biggleswade Tn FC, Billericay Tn FC, Bishop's Stortford FC, Blyth Spartans AFC, Bognor Regis Tn FC, Bowers & Pitsea FC, Bracknell Tn FC, Bromsgrove Sporting FC, Canvey Island FC, Carshalton Athletic FC, Chatham Tn FC, Chertsey Tn FC, Cheshunt FC, Chichester City FC, Cray Valley (PM) FC, Cray Wanderers FC, Dartford FC, Dorchester Tn FC, Dover Athletic FC, Dulwich Hamlet FC, FC Utd of Manchester, Folkestone Invicta FC, Frome Tn FC, Gainsborough Trinity FC, Gloucester City FC, Gosport Borough FC, Guiseley AFC, Halesowen Tn FC, Hanwell Tn FC, Harborough Tn FC, Hashtag Utd FC, Hastings Utd FC, Havant & Waterlooville FC, Hebburn Tn FC, Hendon FC, Hitchin Tn FC, Horsham FC, Hungerford Tn FC, Hyde Utd FC, Ilkeston Tn FC, Kettering Tn FC, Lancaster City FC, Leek Tn FC, Leiston FC, Lewes FC, Lowestoft Tn FC, Macclesfield FC, Marlow FC, Matlock Tn FC, Merthyr Tn FC, Mickleover FC, Morpeth Tn FC, Plymouth Parkway FC, Poole Tn FC, Potters Bar Tn FC, Prescot Cables FC, Redditch Utd FC, Royston Tn FC, Sholing FC, Spalding Utd FC, St Ives Tn FC, Stamford AFC, Stockton Tn FC, Stourbridge FC, Stratford Tn FC, Swindon Supermarine FC, Taunton Tn FC, Tiverton Tn FC, Walton & Hersham FC, Warrington Rylands FC, Whitby Tn FC, Whitehawk FC, Wimborne Tn FC, Winchester City FC, Wingate & Finchley FC, Workington AFC, Worksop Tn FC

THE ISUZU FA VASE FIRST ROUND QUALIFYING

SATURDAY 24 AUGUST 2024

WINNING CLUB TO RECEIVE £550

LOSING CLUB TO RECEIVE £160

1 Longridge Tn v Whitley Bay
2 Newcastle Blue Star v Easington Colliery
3 Sunderland RCA v FC Hartlepool
4 Ilkley Tn v Penrith
5 Tow Law Tn v Kendal Tn
6 Thackley v Colne
7 Shildon v Yarm & Eaglescliffe
8 Alnwick Tn v Billingham Synthonia
9 Birtley Tn v Horden Community Welfare
10 Jarrow v Sunderland West End
11 Pickering Tn v Newcastle Benfield
12 Chester-Le-Street Tn v Billingham Tn
13 Thornaby v Padiham
14 Northallerton Tn v Route One Rovers
15 Boldon CA v Seaham Red Star
16 Redcar Tn v North Shields
17 Parkgate v Sandbach Utd
18 Horbury Tn v Ashton Tn
19 Runcorn Tn v Handsworth
20 Wombwell Tn v Nostell MW
21 Athersley Recreation v Retford Utd
22 Dearne & District v Darwen
23 FC St Helens v Cheadle Heath Nomads
24 Winsford Utd v Litherland Remyca
25 Eccleshill Utd v Chadderton
26 Wakefield v 1874 Northwich
27 Golcar Utd v New Mills
28 Burscough v Droylsden
29 Ashton Athletic v Stockport Georgians
30 Euxton Villa v Squires Gate
31 Bottesford Tn v Barnton
32 Maghull v Bury
33 Worsborough Bridge Athletic v Prestwich Heys
34 Selby Tn v Skelmersdale Utd
35 Rossington Main v Retford
36 Dronfield Tn v Beverley Tn
37 Glasshoughton Welfare v Cheadle Tn
38 Brigg Tn v Winterton Rngrs
39 AFC Liverpool v Northwich Victoria
40 Cammell Laird 1907 v Armthorpe Welfare
41 Barton Tn v Stockport Tn
42 Chelmsley Tn v Allscott Heath
43 Stapenhill v Pershore Tn
44 Southam Utd v Wolverhampton Casuals
45 Bilston Tn Community v Stafford Tn
46 Shifnal Tn v Cradley Tn
47 Market Drayton Tn v Studley
48 Wednesfield Community v Atherstone Tn
49 Droitwich Spa v Nuneaton Griff
50 Alsager Tn v Heather St Johns
51 Worcester Raiders v Eccleshall
52 Westfields v AFC Wulfrunians
53 Brocton v OJM Black Country
54 Rugby Borough v Gresley Rovers
55 Bewdley Tn v AFC Bridgnorth
56 Allexton & New Parks v Clipstone
57 Bourne Tn v Harrowby Utd
58 Birstall Utd Social v Dunkirk
59 Clif ton All Whites v Deeping Rngrs
60 Blackstone v Saf f ron Dynamo
61 Newark Tn v AFC Mansf ield
62 Lutterworth Tn v Pinchbeck Utd
63 GNG Oadby Tn v Radford
64 Sandiacre Tn v Newark & Sherwood Utd
65 Leicester Nirvana v Aylestone Park
66 Gedling MW v Sleaford Tn
67 Louth Tn v Heanor Tn
68 Holwell Sports v Kimberley Miners Welfare
69 Ingles v Melton Tn
70 Clay Cross Tn v Selston
71 Harleston Tn v Wisbech Tn
72 March Tn Utd v Dussindale Rovers
73 Great Yarmouth Tn v Soham Tn Rngrs
74 St Neots Tn v Sheringham
75 Dereham Tn v FC Peterborough
76 Mulbarton Wanderers v Godmanchester Rovers
77 Stowmarket Tn v Huntingdon Tn
78 Framlingham Tn v Ely City
79 Eynesbury Rovers v Lakenheath
80 Diss Tn v Heacham
81 Haverhill Rovers v Baldock Tn
82 Long Melford v Hullbridge Sports
83 Brimsdown v Hackney Wick
84 Newbury Forest v Cannons Wood
85 Takeley v Hutton
86 Coggeshall Tn v May & Baker Eastbrook Comm
87 Harlow Tn v Ilford
88 Colney Heath v Wivenhoe Tn
89 Buckhurst Hill v Cockfosters
90 St Margaretsbury v Haverhill Borough
91 Hadleigh Utd v Woodford Tn
92 Basildon Tn v Rayleigh Tn
93 Potton Utd v Little Oakley
94 Barking v FC Baresi
95 West Essex v Southend Manor
96 Halstead Tn v Langford
97 Risborough Rngrs v Ardley Utd
98 Bedfont Sports v Langley
99 Holyport v Hillingdon Borough
100 Rising Ballers Kensington v Bugbrooke St Michaels
101 Desborough Tn v Aylesbury Vale Dynamos
102 Raunds Tn v Penn & Tylers Green
103 Holmer Green v Rothwell Corinthians
104 Wellingborough Whitworth v Milton Keynes Irish
105 Kempston Rovers v Spartans Youth
106 Oxhey Jets v Ampthill Tn
107 London Colney v Winslow Utd
108 Amersham Tn v Staines & Lammas (Middlesex)
109 Northampton Sileby Rngrs v Northampton On Chenecks
110 NW London v Wembley
111 Clanfield 85 v Tadley Calleva
112 Sandhurst Tn v Nailsea & Tickenham
113 Milton Utd v Woodley Utd
114 Stonehouse Tn v Corsham Tn
115 Brimscombe & Thrupp v Roman Glass St George
116 Oldland Abbotonians v Cirencester Tn
117 Malmesbury Victoria v Longlevens
118 Hallen v Portishead Tn
119 Berks County v Calne Tn
120 Tytherington Rocks v Keynsham Tn
121 Reading City v Abingdon Utd
122 Hengrove Athletic v Shirehampton
123 Wantage Tn v Bitton
124 Wokingham & Emmbrook v Cheltenham Saracens
125 Newent Tn v Cadbury Heath
126 Odd Down (Bath) v Brislington
127 Westside v VCD Athletic
128 Redhill v Billingshurst
129 Selsey v Larkfield & New Hythe
130 Mile Oak v Glebe
131 Ash Utd v Crawley Down Gatwick
132 FC Elmstead v Frimley Green
133 Abbey Rngrs v Rochester Utd
134 Montpelier Villa v Haywards Heath Tn
135 Meridian VP v Lewisham Boro (Comm)
136 Balham v Punjab Utd
137 Sheppey Sports v Reigate Priory
138 Peacehaven & Telscombe v Snodland Tn
139Sporting Club Thamesmeadv Little Common
140 Rusthall v Soul Tower Hamlets
141 Midhurst & Easebourne v Sutton Athletic
142 Hollands & Blair v AFC Varndeanians
143 Banstead Athletic v Lordswood
144 Fisher v Faversham Tn
145 Corinthian v Tooting & Mitcham Utd
146 Oakwood v Alfold
147 Tooting Bec v Newhaven
148 Faversham Strike Force v AFC Uckfield Tn
149 Godalming Tn v Erith & Belvedere
150 Corinthian Casuals v Whitstable Tn
151 Chipstead v Chessington & Hook Utd
152 Forest Row v Staplehurst Monarchs
153 Kennington v Loxwood
154 Horsham YMCA v East Preston
155 Hassocks v Storrington Community
156 Bearsted v Bexhill Utd
157 Crowborough Athletic v Wick
158 Bridon Ropes v Lydd Tn
159 Guilford City v Worthing Utd
160 Bournemouth v Cowes Sports
161 Andover New Street v Lymington Tn
162 Ringwood Tn v Petersfield Tn
163 Folland Sports v Sturminster Newton Utd
164 Whitchurch Utd v Portland Utd
165 Hythe & Dibden v Brockenhurst
166 Sherborne Tn v Alresford Tn
167 Hamworthy Utd v Warminster Tn
168 Totton & Eling v Verwood Tn
169 Baffins Milton Rovers v AFC Portchester
170 Clanfield v Laverstock & Ford
171 Fawley v Christchurch
172 Millbrook (Hampshire) v New Milton Tn
173 Blackfield & Langley v Utd Services Portsmouth
174 Fleetlands v Romsey Tn
175 Callington Tn v Shepton Mallet
176 Newton Abbot Spurs v Ivybridge Tn
177 St Blazey v Saltash Utd
178 Wendron Utd v Dobwalls
179 Sidmouth Tn v Torrington
180 Bovey Tracey v Liskeard Athletic
181 Camelford v Bishops Lydeard
182 Torridgeside v Newquay
183 Middlezoy Rovers v Okehampton Argyle
184 Launceston v Millbrook (Cornwall)
185 Street v Elburton Villa
186 Crediton Utd v Buckland Athletic
187 Wadebridge Tn v Cheddar



BOLD WORK: Boldon CA take on Seaham Red Star in the FA Vase

THE ISUZU FA VASE SECOND ROUND QUALIFYING

SATURDAY, 21 SEPTEMBER 2024

WINNING CLUB TO RECEIVE £725

LOSING CLUB TO RECEIVE £225

1 Redcar Tn or North Shields v Chester-Le-Street Tn or Billingham Tn
2 Crook Tn v Holker Old Boys
3 Guisborough Tn v Shildon or Yarm & Eaglescliffe
4 Prudhoe Youth v West Allotment Celtic
5 Birtley Tn or Horden Comm Welfare v Tow Law Tn or Kendal Tn
6 Ryton & Crawcrook Albion v Garstang
7 Newcastle Blue Star or Easington Colliery v Boro Rangers
8 Campion v Alnwick Tn or Billingham Synthonia
9 Albion Sports v Tadcaster Albion
10 Esh Winning v Marske Utd
11 Barnoldswick Tn v Steeton
12 Harrogate Railway Ath v Longridge Tn or Whitley Bay
13 Jarrow or Sunderland West End v Boldon CA or Seaham Red Star
14 Northallerton Tn or Route One Rovers v Bedlington Terriers
15 Yorkshire Amateur v Pickering Tn or Newcastle Benfield
16 Redcar Athletic v West Auckland Tn
17 Thackley or Colne v Knaresborough Tn
18 Chester-Le-Street Utd v Sunderland RCA or FC Hartlepool
19 Ilkley Tn or Penrith v Thornaby or Padiham



ON THE ROAD: Wormley Rovers, right, travel to Brimsdown or Hackney Wick in the FA Vase PICTURE: Mike Capps

20	Maghull	v	Burscough
	or Bury		or Droylsden
21	Selby Tn	v	AFC Liverpool
	or Skelmersdale Utd		or Northwich Victoria
22	Barton Tn	v	FC St Helens
	or Stockport Tn		or Cheadle Heath Nomads
23	Daisy Hill	v	Lower Breck
24	Eccleshill Utd	v	Athersley Recreation
	or Chadderton		or Retford Utd
25	Dronfield Tn	v	Brigg Tn
	or Beverley Tn		or Winterton Rangers
26	Horbury Tn	v	Cammell Laird 1907
	or Ashton Tn		or Armthorpe Welfare
27	Maine Road	v	Winsford Utd
			or Litherland Remyca
28	Pilkington	v	Staveley MW
29	Rossington Main	v	Glossop North End
	or Retford		
30	Abbey Hey	v	Penistone Church
31	Frickley Athletic	v	Parkgate
			or Sandbach Utd
32	Wakefield	v	Bottesford Tn
	or 1874 Northwich		or Barnton
33	Euxton Villa	v	Bacup Borough
	or Squires Gate		
34	Goole	v	Golcar Utd
			or New Mills
35	Atherton LR	v	Glasshoughton Welfare
			or Cheadle Tn
36	Dearne & District	v	Maltby Main
	or Darwen		
37	Worsborough Bridge Ath	v	Runcorn Tn
	or Prestwich Heys		or Handsworth
38	Wombwell Tn	v	Ashton Athletic
	or Nostell MW		or Stockport Georgians
39	Abbey Hulton Utd	v	Worcester Raiders
			or Eccleshall
40	Romulus	v	Southam Utd
			or Wolverhampton Casuals
41	Shawbury Utd	v	Market Drayton Tn
			or Studley
42	Coton Green	v	Foley Meir
43	Dudley Tn	v	Stone Old Alleynians
44	Wednesfield Community	v	Shifnal Tn
	or Atherstone Tn		or Cradley Tn
45	Sutton Utd (Birmingham)	v	Bilston Tn Community
			or Stafford Tn
46	FC Stratford	v	Hinckley
47	Alsager Tn	v	Sporting Club Inkberrow
	or Heather St Johns		
48	Brocton	v	Chelmsley Tn
	or OJM B Country Comm		or Allscott Heath
49	Paget Rangers	v	Rugby Borough
			or Gresley Rovers
50	Coventry Copsewood	v	Stapenhill
			or Pershore Tn
51	Uttoxeter Tn	v	Hereford Pegasus
52	Westfields	v	Coventry Utd
	or AFC Wulfrunians		
53	Bewdley Tn	v	Droitwich Spa
	or AFC Bridgnorth		or Nuneaton Griff
54	Holwell Sports	v	Skegness Tn
	or Kimberley MW		
55	Gedling MW	v	Kirby Muxloe
	or Sleaford Tn		
56	Leicester Nirvana	v	Clay Cross Tn
	or Aylestone Park		or Selston
57	Newark Tn	v	Southwell City
	or AFC Mansfield		
58	Belper Utd	v	Clifton All Whites
			or Deeping Rangers
59	Blackstone	v	Bourne Tn
	or Saffron Dynamo		or Harrowby Utd
60	Coalville Tn	v	Lutterworth Tn
			or Pinchbeck Utd
61	GNG Oadby Tn	v	Sandiacre Tn
	or Radford		or Newark & Sherwood Utd
62	Louth Tn	v	Birstall Utd Social
	or Heanor Tn		or Dunkirk
63	Lutterworth Athletic	v	Hucknall Tn
64	Pinxton	v	Leicester St Andrews
65	Shirebrook Tn	v	Holbeach Utd
66	Ingles	v	Allexton & New Parks
	or Melton Tn		or Clipstone
67	Thetford Tn	v	Swaffham Tn
68	Great Yarmouth Tn	v	Eynesbury Rovers
	or Soham Tn Rangers		or Lakenheath
69	Harleston Tn	v	Diss Tn
	or Wisbech Tn		or Heacham
70	Stowmarket Tn	v	Histon
	or Huntingdon Tn		
71	Yaxley	v	Kirkley & Pakefield
72	March Tn Utd	v	Mulbarton Wanderers
	or Dussindale Rovers		or Godmanchester Rovers
73	St Neots Tn	v	Downham Tn
	or Sheringham		
74	Framlingham Tn	v	Dereham Tn
	or Ely City		or FC Peterborough
75	Woodbridge Tn	v	Whittlesey Athletic
76	FC Romania	v	Cornard Utd
77	Brantham Athletic	v	Sawbridgeworth Tn
78	Letchworth GC Eagles	v	FC Clacton
79	Benfleet	v	Haverhill Rovers
			or Baldock Tn
80	Potton Utd	v	Long Melford
	or Little Oakley		or Hullbridge Sports
81	Enfield Borough	v	Frenford
82	Hadleigh Utd	v	Harlow Tn
	or Woodford Tn		or Ilford
83	Halstead Tn	v	St Margaretsbury
	or Langford		or Haverhill Borough
84	Stansted	v	Burnham Ramblers
85	Brimsdown	v	Wormley Rovers
	or Hackney Wick		
86	Shefford Tn & Campton	v	West Essex
			or Southend Manor
87	Clapton Community	v	Hoddesdon Tn
88	Harwich & Parkeston	v	Basildon Tn
			or Rayleigh Tn
89	Colney Heath	v	Stanway Rovers
	or Wivenhoe Tn		
90	Barking	v	Takeley
	or FC Baresi		or Hutton
91	AFC Welwyn Romans	v	Arlesey Tn
92	Coggeshall Tn	v	Barkingside
	or M & B Eastbrook Comm.		
93	Buckhurst Hill	v	Newbury Forest
	or Cockfosters		or Cannons Wood
94	Cranfield Utd	v	Amersham Tn
			or Staines & Lammas (Middlesex)
95	Dunstable Tn	v	Tring Athletic
96	Broadfields Utd	v	Holmer Green
			or Rothwell Corinthians
97	London Samurai Rovers	v	Spelthorne Sports
98	Kempston Roversv Desborough Tn		
	or Spartans Youth		or Aylesbury Vale Dynamos
99	Chalfont St Peter	v	Harpenden Tn
100	Bedfont Sports	v	Bedfont
	or Langley		
101	Irchester Utd	v	Wellingborough Whitworth
			or Milton Keynes Irish
102	Windsor & Eton	v	Easington Sports
103	Buckingham	v	Brook House
104	Daventry Tn	v	Rushden & Higham Utd
105	Long Buckby	v	Risborough Rangers
			or Ardley Utd
106	Oxhey Jets	v	British Airways
	or Ampthill Tn		
107	NW London or Wembley	v	FC Deportivo Galicia
108	Virginia Water	v	London Colney
			or Winslow Utd
109	Edgware & Kingsbury	v	Newport Pagnell Tn
110	Raunds Tn	v	Moulton
	or Penn & Tylers Green		
111	Crawley Green	v	Holyport
			or Hillingdon Borough
112	Rising Ballers Kensington	v	Northampton Sileby Rgrs
	or Bugbrooke St Michaels		or Northampton On Chenecks
113	Wokingham & Emmbrook	v	Brimscombe & Thrupp
	or Cheltenham Saracens		or Roman Glass St George
114	Bristol Telephones	v	Clanfield 85
			or Tadley Calleva
115	Tytherington Rocks	v	Chipping Sodbury Tn
	or Keynsham Tn		
116	Lydney Tn	v	Oldland Abbotonians
			or Cirencester Tn
117	Fairford Tn	v	Reading City
			or Abingdon Utd
118	Mangotsfield Utd	v	Stonehouse Tn
			or Corsham Tn
119	Eversley & California	v	Yateley Utd
120	Wallingford & Crowmarsh	v	Sandhurst Tn
			or Nailsea & Tickenham
121	Wantage Tn or Bitton	v	Tuffley Rovers
122	AFC Aldermaston	v	Bradford Tn
123	Longwell Green Sports	v	Hallen
			or Portishead Tn
124	Milton Utd	v	Hengrove Athletic
	or Woodley Utd		or Shirehampton
125	Berks County	v	Odd Down (Bath)
	or Calne Tn		or Brislington
126	Shortwood Utd	v	Newent Tn
			or Cadbury Heath
127	Thornbury Tn	v	Malmesbury Victoria
			or Longlevens
128	Devizes Tn	v	Slimbridge
129	Horley Tn	v	Hassocks
			or Storrington Community
130	Chipstead	v	Westside
	or Chessington & Hook Utd		or VCD Athletic
131	Camberley Tn	v	Horsham YMCA
			or East Preston
132	Meridian VP	v	Montpelier Villa
	or Lewisham Boro (Comm)		or Haywards Heath Tn
133	Molesey	v	Ash Utd
			or Crawley Down Gatwick
134	Crowborough Athletic	v	Oakwood
	or Wick		or Alfold
135	Tunbridge Wells	v	Mile Oak
			or Glebe
136	Sheerwater	v	Fisher
			or Faversham Tn
137	Faversham Strike Force	v	Selsey
	or AFC Uckfield Tn		or Larkfield & New Hythe
138	Redhill or Billingshurst	v	Knaphill
139	Sheppey Sports	v	Stansfeld
	or Reigate Priory		
140	Guilford City	v	Corinthian
	or Worthing Utd		or Tooting & Mitcham Utd
141	Abbey Rangersv Welling Tn		
	or Rochester Utd		
142	Tooting Bec	v	Bridon Ropes
	or Newhaven		or Lydd Tn
143	Canterbury City	v	Banstead Athletic
			or Lordswood
144	Balham	v	Arundel
	or Punjab Utd		
145	AFC Whyteleafe	v	Rusthall
			or Soul Tower Hamlets
146	Bearsted	v	Kennington
	or Bexhill Utd		or Loxwood
147	Copthorne	v	Midhurst & Easebourne
			or Sutton Athletic
148	Godalming Tn	v	FC Elmstead
	or Erith & Belvedere		or Frimley Green
149	Forest Row	v	Pagham
	or Staplehurst Monarchs		
150	Saltdean Utd	v	Shoreham
151	SC Thamesmead	v	Peacehaven & Telscombe
	or Snodland Tn		or Little Common
152	Corinthian Casuals	v	Hollands & Blair
	or Whitstable Tn		or AFC Varndeanians
153	Epsom & Ewell	v	Seaford Tn
154	Greenways	v	Colliers Wood Utd
155	Newport (IW)	v	Totton & Eling
			or Verwood Tn
156	Fareham Tn	v	Bournemouth
			or Cowes Sports
157	Baffins Milton Rovers	v	Andover New Street
	or AFC Portchester		or Lymington Tn
158	Bridport	v	Hythe & Dibden
			or Brockenhurst
159	Blackfield & Langley	v	East Cowes Victoria Ath
	or Utd Services Portsmouth		
160	Fawley	v	AFC Stoneham
	or Christchurch		
161	Millbrook (Hampshire)	v	Alton
	or New Milton Tn		
162	Fleet Tn	v	Hamworthy Utd
			or Warminster Tn
163	Whitchurch Utd	v	Sherborne Tn
	or Portland Utd		or Alresford Tn
164	Folland Sports	v	Infinity
	or Sturminster Newton Utd		
165	Ringwood Tnv Wincanton Tn		
	or Petersfield Tn		
166	Fleetlands	v	Clanfield
	or Romsey Tn		or Laverstock & Ford
167	Wadebridge Tn	v	Bodmin Tn
	or Cheddar		
168	Wendron Utd	v	St Blazey
	or Dobwalls		or Saltash Utd
169	Welton Rovers	v	Newton Abbot Spurs
			or Ivybridge Tn
170	Crediton Utd	v	Callington Tn
	or Buckland Athletic		or Shepton Mallet
171	Middlezoy Rovers	v	Launceston
	or Okehampton Argyle		or Millbrook (Cornwall)
172	Street	v	Axminster Tn
	or Elburton Villa		
173	Paulton Rovers	v	Torridgeside or Newquay
174	Camelford	v	Radstock Tn
	or Bishops Lydeard		
175	Ilfracombe Tn	v	Bovey Tracey
			or Liskeard Athletic
176	Honiton Tn	v	Torpoint Athletic
177	Wellington AFC	v	Sidmouth Tn
			or Torrington

25 CLUBS EXEMPT TO SECOND RND PROPER

Previous season's Clubs playing in Fourth Round Proper (32), and not moved to Trophy
Ashby Ivanhoe FC, Blyth Tn FC, Bridgwater Utd FC, Brixham AFC, Charnock Richard FC, Cobham FC, Great Wakering Rovers FC, Hallam FC, Hamworthy Recreation FC, Hartpury University FC, Highworth Tn FC, Hilltop FC, Holmesdale FC, Jersey Bulls FC, Lichfield City FC, Lincoln Utd FC, North Greenford Utd FC, Romford FC, Silsden AFC, South Liverpool FC, Stanway Pegasus FC, Stourport Swifts FC, Walsham Le Willows FC, Whickham FC, Whitchurch Alport FC, (7) Moved to Trophy, Deal Tn FC, Emley AFC, Erith Tn FC, Falmouth Tn AFC, Farnham Tn FC, Tilbury FC, Worcester City FC

29 CLUBS EXEMPT TO FIRST RND PROPER

Previous season's Clubs playing in Third Round Proper (32) not progressing to Fourth Round Proper, and not moved to Trophy
AFC St Austell, Ashville FC, Athletic Newham FC, Barnstaple Tn FC, Biggleswade Utd FC, Boston Tn FC, Burnham FC, Carlisle City FC, Clevedon Tn FC, Downton FC, Eastbourne Utd AFC, Eastwood Community FC, Egham Tn FC, Fakenham Tn FC, Hamble Club FC, Harefield Utd FC, Highgate Utd FC, Irlam FC, Lingfield FC, London Lions FC, Newcastle University FC, Ramsbottom Utd FC, Roffey FC, Royal Wootton Bassett Tn FC, Saffron Walden Tn FC, Tividale FC, Wells City FC, West Didsbury & Chorlton AFC, White Ensign FC
(3) Moved to Trophy
Bishop Auckland FC, Congleton Tn FC, Mildenhall Tn FC

PITCHING IN

STEP 3 NEWS

LAWLOR BACK IN LIONS' DEN

FANS' favourite Jake Lawlor has returned to Guiseley after leaving National League North side Darlington.

The 33-year-old defender spent five years at Nethermoor between 2013 and 2018, including 99 National League appearances in his final three seasons.

Since his departure from Guiseley to Salford City, Lawlor has made appearances for Wrexham, Harrogate Town and Hartlepool United.

"The main pull for me to come back was the return of Bows (Mark Bower) and Bosh (Danny Boshell)," Lawlor said of his return to the NPL Premier outfit. "What we did previously together was good. I cannot wait to get started again."

Rebels' double striker swoop

FC UNITED of Manchester have strengthened their forward line with a double striker swoop.

The Red Rebels have brought in Jordan Preston from Bradford Park Avenue, just hours after confirming the signing of Lewis Rawsthorn on a three-month loan from last season's champions Radcliffe.

Preston, the former Gateshead, Halifax Town, Guiseley and Spennymoor Town front man, arrives at the NPL Premier club after making 42 appearances for Avenue last season, scoring 10 goals.

Boss Neil Reynolds has also bolstered the backline with the signing of centre-back Declan Evans from National League North side Southport.

READ GETS TO SHO HIS STUFF

AMBITIOUS Sholing are piecing together a squad for a promotion tilt in Southern Premier South next season with a series of top signings.

The Boatmen have brought in popular midfielder Benny Read from league rivals AFC Totton, while also adding Billy Stedman following a successful loan spell last season.

Read started his career at Horndean before becoming a fans' favourite at Havant & Waterlooville.

Former Charlton pro Harry Taylor has also signed, while Supporters' and Manager's Player of the Year Owen Roundell is back for another season, along with Jake Hesketh.

Goal-den Pole Dawid Swans in

WALTON & Hersham have landed a coup by luring free-scoring striker Dawid Rogalski from league rivals Marlow.

The Polish striker scored 45 goals across all competitions as the Blues won promotion from the Isthmian South Central Division through the play-offs.

Rogalski's final two goals for the Blues came in their 3-2 play-off semi-final victory over Westfield and their 3-0 play-off final win against Leatherhead. Marlow have since been switched to Southern Premier South.

Rogalski, 27, started his career at Maidenhead United before heading back to Poland where he played for four years before returning to join Chalfont St Peter.



NEW RECRUITS: Big striker Tom Denton and Darius Osei, inset, have joined Steve Cunningham, inset, at Ashton United this season
PICTURE: Tina Jenner

STEVE HAS PLAN FOR

NORTHERN PREMIER

By John Lyons

UPBEAT boss Steve Cunningham reckons he's adding the firepower needed to give Ashton United a genuine shot at NPL Premier glory this season.

The 44-year-old led Buxton to the title a couple of years ago, but aims to take a leaf out of the book of current champions Radcliffe in the coming campaign.

"They scored 103 goals last season and that's why they won the league," he told *The NLP*. "Their approach seemed to be 'if we concede goals, we'll outscore you'.

"We need more goals in our team – certain profiles, different types of forwards and creative, attacking players."

To that end, Cunningham has briskly gone about his business, with three of his opening half-dozen signings being front men. Former FC Halifax and Chesterfield target man Tom Denton has arrived from Guiseley and the 6ft 7ins powerhouse, who turns 35 later this month, will give the Robins' attack a new dimension.

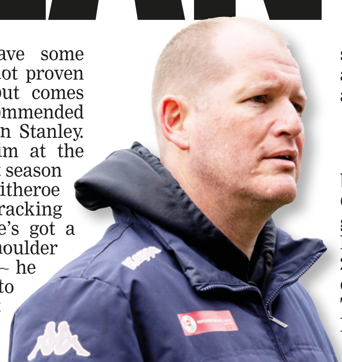
Ex-Oldham and South Shields striker Darius Osei, 29, has made the switch from Stalybridge Celtic and 18-year-old Jack Massey has joined from Accrington Stanley. Cunningham is confident the trio of new recruits will complement free-scoring Jason Gilchrist at the sharp end.

"We wanted proven goalscorers and we have got that with Tom and Darius," he explained. "We didn't have someone like Tom last year and he will give us a presence in both boxes.

"He can pass the ball with his head in Non-League better than many can with their feet, but people don't give him enough credit for his football ability. There's a reason why he's had the career he's had and everyone wants a player like him.

"He will add so much value to our changing room – he's a great fit.

"I've tried to sign Darius at three clubs and I thought it would never happen, so I'm delighted to finally get him. He's as strong as an ox and a proven goalscorer at this level with South Shields. If he can replicate that form, we'll have some player. Jack's not proven at this level but comes highly recommended from Accrington Stanley. I monitored him at the back end of last season on loan at Clitheroe and he's a cracking little player. He's got a chip on his shoulder and I like that – he wants to prove to the world that he's the best thing since



sliced bread. He's young and hungry, and we have a nice balance now."

Livewire

While forwards have been his primary focus, Cunningham hasn't neglected other areas. Goalkeeper Conor O'Keefe, 28, has arrived from Macclesfield, former Crawley Town and Northern Ireland U21 international left-back Josh Doherty, also 28, has made the switch from Hyde United and ex-Chesterfield and Swindon Town midfielder Jak McCourt, who turned 29 yesterday, has joined from Buxton.

"I've met some unbelievable people in football, but Conor's the nicest guy I have ever come across," he said. "He's got a very high profile with his goalkeeping YouTube channel, but we haven't signed him for that.



A CUNNING HIS ROBINS

"He's got technical ability, experience and he's a talker. He adds something a bit different and will be our second quarterback.

"We've got an ugly looking team this year so we wanted to sign Josh to make us look a bit better! When we spoke it only took me five minutes to realise that I wanted to sign him. He's honest, still hungry and the type of character you want.

"I'm a salesman and a real livewire, a different type of manager to who he's worked with before. He's worked under Harry Kewell at three clubs, but I'm like the Mike Bassett of Non-League! The way we play and do things – he will love it here.

Front foot

"Jak's a typical Scouser – I've brought him for his gob! What a player – he was one of the best players in the league (National League North) at Buxton. It was fortunate for us that he's in his family business and couldn't really afford to go full-time.

"He lives local and has played with some of the lads before. The dressing room can sometimes be your best recruitment driver. Good teams and competitive teams attract good players – and that's the case with Jak.

"He's a ball-playing midfielder and we want to be a really attacking, front foot team next season. He can play in that quarterback role to help us do that and he scores goals as well."

The Robins finished seventh last season, three points outside the play-off places, and there's no disguising their desire to significantly improve.

"Our ambition is very much to try to get promoted, whether by winning the league or through the play-offs," added the former Colne and Curzon Ashton boss, who took the reins in January 2023.

"The league will be difficult this year with the likes of Macclesfield, Worksop and Guiseley. There are a lot of teams going for it. I like to think we will be challenging for top five and, ideally, sitting on top. We are trying to give ourselves the best chance to do that."

KEV REUNITES WITH ARMSON

BOSS Kevin Wilkin has been reunited with James Armson at AFC Telford United.

The Southern Premier Central Bucks sealed a deal to bring in the 34-year-old after ending an eight-year spell at Brackley Town, yielding almost 300 appearances.

Armson, an England C international, started his career at Nuneaton Borough, where he made over 200 appearances before joining Solihull Moors in 2015.

Former Brackley Town boss Wilkin said: "I've been lucky that we've spent a large part of our careers working together, and he's given me some brilliant moments in the game; there's no doubt about that."

Sablier settles down at Rooks

LEWES have completed the permanent signing of midfielder Marcus Sablier following his departure from Bromley.

Sablier came through the Ravens' academy to break into Andy Woodman's side and gained experience with loan spells in National League South with Welling United and Hampton & Richmond Borough.

Further loans at Bowers & Pitsea, Cray Wanderers and Cheshunt followed before Sablier landed at the Dripping Pan last season, making 20 appearances for the Rooks.

Sablier is joined at the Isthmian Premier club by striker Danny Bassett, who joins from Carshalton Athletic. Bassett scored 11 goals for the Robins at Step 3 last season.

LOUIS FINDS NEW HAMLET

ISTHMIAN Premier Dulwich Hamlet have picked up former Tottenham Hotspur and Norwich City right-back Louis Ramsay, from Billericay Town.

Ramsay, 26, made his senior debut on loan from Norwich at Woking in the National League and then moved on to Leicester City before his first spell with Billericay Town.

After a season at Step 2 with the Blues, Ramsay moved to Hornchurch on loan and then travelled over to the USA where he played briefly for Rio Grande Valley.

Ramsay spent the 2022-23 season with Concord Rangers before returning to Billericay last summer and went on to make 27 appearances last season.

Quba Tagged in for Swift move

HASHTAG United have lured talismanic captain Quba Gordon from Heybridge Swifts.

The giant 6ft 4in defender featured in the National League as a teenager for Boreham Wood and has bags of experience in Non-League, including spells at Haringey Borough, Hendon and Maldon & Tiptree.

On his move to the Isthmian Premier outfit, Gordon, 26, said: "I do love a challenge and I want to compete. I have played the level before and thought it was the right time to step back up.

"Devs (manager Jay Devereux) made contact with me and from listening to what he had to say, it was a no-brainer joining the club."

PITCHING IN

STEP 4 NEWS

DROP OF RAIN BOOSTS PAUL

CITY of Liverpool boss Paul McNally is chuffed to bits to have captured veteran forward Jamie Rainford.

The 36-year-old former Chester marksman left fellow NPL West side Runcorn Linnets, where he held the role of player-assistant manager, at the end of last season.

"Jamie is a very prolific and experienced striker who is capable of adding more goals to our team," said McNally. "He is a player I've known for a number of years and once he became available we set about bringing him into the club.

"When Jamie settles into the team and our style of play during pre-season, we know he will provide a cutting edge."

Selley strikes at the double

FORMER Arsenal midfielder Ian Selley is continuing to mould his Leatherhead squad in readiness for a crack at promotion from Isthmian South Central.

The 50-year-old, who took the reins at the Tanners in May, will be eager to improve on last season's third place finish and subsequent play-off final defeat at runners-up Marlow.

Young attacker Marco Haigh has joined the Surrey club having previously played for South Park, Kingstonian and Farnborough.

He was quickly followed into Fetcham Grove by Kane Fitzgerald. The creative midfielder has made the switch from Badshot Lea, where he was captain.

HEAPY SALUTE FOR BIG BEN

DIDCOT Town manager Jamie Heapy has heaped praise on departing utility man Ben Putland.

Putland made 79 appearances during his time with the Railwaymen, but work commitments mean he is moving away from the area.

Boss Heapy, preparing his side for life in Southern League Division One South following relegation last term, said: "I'm going to miss Ben. A big player for me and an absolute gent.

"Ben was immense in the play-off final two seasons back and he always gave everything for the team. I would like to wish him all the best for the future."

Fab four arrive to lift Lancers

LANCING boss Jamie Hollis has strengthened his squad for the coming campaign with a quartet of signings.

Attacking midfielder Kiko Tanev has joined the Lancers after a spell at Shoreham, while versatile defender Harry Docherty has arrived from Peacehaven.

Imposing centre-half Josh Tuck has made the switch from Newhaven, who reached the Southern Combination Premier Division play-off final last term. Lancing have also been buoyed by the return of fans' favourite Harrison Parker following stints at East Grinstead, Whitehawk and Peacehaven.

The new recruits will be aiming to help the West Sussex side improve on last term's sixth place finish in Isthmian South East.



DETERMINED TO REMAIN

ISTHMIAN STH CEN

By John Lyons

GARY Meakin reckons Rayners Lane can have a crack at a third successive promotion – if his players maintain high standards throughout the season.

Ambitious Lane won promotion through the Combined Counties Division One play-offs under previous boss Scott Patmore in 2022-23. It was then the experienced Meakin's turn to repeat the feat in Premier Division North last season, beating Bedfont Sports on penalties to secure promotion to Step 4 for the first time.

It means the north-west London club, in the borough of Harrow, will line up in a tasty-looking Isthmian South Central Division in the coming season. Former Beaconsfield Town boss Meakin is expecting a searching examination at the higher level, but believes there is a chance for Lane to make it a hat-trick of promotions on the bounce.

"There's no reason why we can't – we have a squad good enough to compete," the 40-year-old told *The NLP*. "I'm not saying we are going to win the league – there are a lot of good teams in there – but I can't see why we can't be in and around the play-offs.

"You know what it's like if you get to the play-offs – it's a lottery. A shot at two games for promotion is the target."

Having stormed from Step 6 to Step 4 in the blink of an eye, it's no wonder all at Lane are relishing the prospect of attractive opposition next term.

"I don't think the division seemed as strong over the last few years, but now you've got the likes of Farnham, Leatherhead, Southall, Kingstonian, Hayes & Yeading and Harrow Borough," he said. "There are a few big-hitters spending a small fortune. We could be average and still win most of our games last year with the squad we had. This year we'll have to be at it every week. It will be difficult but hopefully we'll get stronger as the season goes on.

"You can't win the league in August, September and October, but you can make life difficult for yourself if you don't start well. Hopefully we can make a semi-decent start and go from there."

Continuity

One factor that gives Meakin cause for optimism is that he has managed to keep virtually the whole squad that he rapidly threw together at the start of last season.

"I like continuity, I don't like wholesale changes," he explained. "If we're signing players now, I want players that can play at Step 3 so we wouldn't need to make wholesale changes if we went up."

While Meakin waits to see if midfielder Troy Perez-Duah secures a pro deal in Romania, he has strengthened his ranks by signing 30-year-old goalkeeper Ravan Constable from Dulwich Hamlet and bringing back midfielder Toby Nnadozie from Harrow Borough.

"Ravan is an old favourite of mine," said Meakin. "He was at Beaconsfield for a long time, went to Dulwich and it didn't work out for him there, but he'll be a good signing for us.

"We originally signed Toby from Risborough and I watched him again at Step 3. He's potentially got

ROUSE'S REMODELLED OWLS

NPL EAST

By John Lyons

CRAIG Rouse is relishing the prospect of his first season in the Cleethorpes Town hotseat – and reckons shrewd recruitment has boosted the Owls' chances of success.

After leading Pontefract Collieries to the NPL East play-offs last season, Rouse took the 'difficult decision' to part company with Colls in May. Now he's looking to improve the fortunes of Cleethorpes, who finished ninth last term.

"I had some great times at Pontefract and built a lot of good relationships with people, but, from my own point of view, I thought I had perhaps taken them as far as I could," he told *The NLP*. "When the new challenge arrived at Cleethorpes, I was keen to get it sorted.

"It was a manic few weeks – things happened really quickly and caught me by surprise a bit. I was keen to speak to the existing players and try to retain the core, which we have managed to do in the main."

But it's the new signings that Rouse and Co have made since that will have made the club's supporters – and their rivals – sit up and take notice.

Aside from bringing in free-scoring striker Adam Haw and midfielder Jack Vann from his former club, the Owls boss has also swooped for players who have featured higher up the ladder.

Former Bradford Park Avenue attacker Brad Dockerty, 27, ex-Boston United and Ashton United midfielder Brad Abbott, 29, and former



CUP KINGS: Rayners Lane savour beating Hayes & Yeading United in last season's Middlesex Senior Cup final
PICTURE: Darren Campbell

GARY'S EAGER IN FAST LANE!

a big future, but he needs games."

Meakin's managerial know-how is also a big plus for Rayners Lane as they gear up for higher level football. He was player-manager at Hillingdon Borough before bossing the likes of Northwood, Wingate & Finchley, Burnham, Egham and Beaconsfield Town.

"It was nice to take a break before Rayners Lane came up," he said. "I'd managed in the Southern Premier for five years and the travelling does take its toll. I'm still only 40 but I've been managing for 15 years.

"The club have a project in place and the previous manager Scott Patmore did a great job and left good foundations.

"The expectation was that we should get promotion last season, so it was a sense of relief in the end and the play-offs is a great way to go up.

"No Step 5 team had ever won the Middlesex Senior Cup either (Lane beat Hayes & Yeading 3-2 in the final) so that was a good win for the club. I'm enjoying myself at the moment and it's nice to be close to home."



KEEP IT IN THE FAMILY: Gary Meakin shares the limelight with son Parker

ARE DETERMINED TO FLY HIGH

Barnsley and Harrogate Town left-back George Smith, 27, who played for Farsley Celtic last term, have all come on board.

"We didn't want a scattergun approach – we wanted quality over quantity," explained Rouse, who has also snapped up young attacking midfielder Owen Vincent.

"One of the things we were looking at straight away was bringing in a core of players from higher levels. To bring in players of that calibre and experience is huge and will help bring the other players along with them."

After reaching the play-offs last season with Colls, it's understandable that Rouse wants to do it again at his new home.

"That's the aim as a minimum and we feel the recruitment has gone really well," said the 40-year-old. "You need a bit of luck with injuries and suspensions during the season, but we feel we are in a good position in terms of recruitment. Now there's a lot of hard work to do before the season starts."

Cleethorpes are looking forward to one of the highlights of their pre-season programme next Saturday (2pm) when they play host to League Two neighbours Grimsby Town in a money-spinning friendly. "It's become a key fixture and we are really excited to welcome Grimsby," added Rouse.

"Hopefully it will play some part in helping their preparations – and our own, and hopefully the supporters of both clubs will come together and have a great day."

KING GLEE AT ZIDAN COUP

STEVE King says "explosive" young forward Zidan Sutherland will bring a different dimension to NPL West side Hednesford Town's attack.

The 22-year-old finished last season as Dover's top-scorer, despite leaving the National League South side in March.

He finished the campaign with Redditch but has now put pen to paper on a one-year deal at Keys Park.

"I'm delighted to sign Zidan," said King. "He's a quick and explosive forward with huge potential and he will be a real asset to the club.

"He can stretch teams with his pace and will add a different option to the current front line we have accrued."

Bears capture marksman Oli

ISTHMIAN South East side Broadbridge Heath capped a busy week in the transfer market with the capture of prolific striker Oli Leslie.

A long-time servant of Crawley Down Gatwick, the 32-year-old played 313 times for the Sussex side, scoring 175 goals and contributing 80 assists. Last season's tally of 38 earned him the Southern Combination League golden boot and attracted interest from a host of clubs at Step 4.

The Bears also brought former youth team goalkeeper Leo Anderson back to the club from Three Bridges, while young full-back Ben Dyson – who spent last season with Raynes Park Vale and Redhill – has signed a one-year deal.

LEE GIVES US CLASS – KEDS

DANNY Kedwell says Lee Martin will bring class and experience to Ashford United's youthful midfield.

Now 37, Martin came through the ranks at Manchester United, where he made one appearance before enjoying spells at Millwall, Ipswich and Gillingham.

He scored four goals in 37 games for Ashford's Isthmian South East rivals Ramsgate last term but has now opted to link up with ex-Gills teammate Kedwell.

"Lee's still a class player and he gives more experience in there," said the Ashford boss. "Most of our players are young and, in some cases, very young, so it's good to have Lee in there. He's a big signing for us."

Russell's Rams reign is so short

RAMSGATE'S plans for the new season are in turmoil – after boss Tony Russell departed after just 25 days in charge.

The Isthmian South East club announced the former Lewes manager's exit in a brief statement on Friday. The Rams also cancelled their pre-season friendly against Kennington – which had been due to be played on Friday night – at the same time.

A club statement, which invited applications for the now-vacant post, said: "Tony Russell and his management team have left Ramsgate Football Club with immediate effect."

Russell had only taken charge on June 10, replacing Ben Smith in the hotseat.

BRETT'S ALL SET TO STAR AT ROVERS!

By Neil Harvey

BRETT Pitman is set to continue his goalscoring assault on the Wessex League after signing up with Baffins Milton Rovers.

The former Bournemouth, Ipswich and Portsmouth striker has racked up an incredible 112 goals across two seasons with AFC Portchester and Shaftesbury – a tally that includes 14 hat-tricks.

He scored a league-record 61 times as Shaftesbury sealed promotion last term, but opted to remain at Step 5 due to work commitments.

The 36-year-old – promoted three times with Bournemouth and once described by current Newcastle boss Eddie Howe as the best finisher he'd ever worked with – is employed as a full-time coach in the Bournemouth academy.

"It's a massive coup for a little club like Baffins Milton Rovers," said manager Danny Thompson, who plays alongside Pitman in the Portsmouth legends side.

"It doesn't seem real, but it shows our ambition in trying to move forward, not just off the field, but on it as well.

"He had a few clubs at a higher level interested, but he can't really commit to the travel.

"There were also a couple of good offers and, if it was about the money, I'm sure he would have gone to those clubs sniffing around him.

"But it's not all about that. He's taken a pay cut to join us because this suits him for where he is at this moment in time in his life and career."



PUMPED UP: Former Portsmouth ace Brett Pitman has signed on at Step 5 Baffins Milton Rovers PICTURE: Alamy

GOAL ACE CAN FIRE US AGAIN

Town hold onto 76-goal Jake, for now

By Matthew Nash

STUART ATKINS believes Jake Tabor can fire Amersham Town to a second straight promotion – but insists the club will not break the bank to do so.

Town raced to the Combined Counties League Division One title by 17 points last season and will not be daunted by Step 5 football, especially with 76-goal striker Tabor staying put this summer.

Tabor spent time on trial at League One Wycombe Wanderers but remains a key man at Spratleys Meadow and boss Atkins will again look to him to set them up for a promotion push.

"Jake was always staying, he had another year on his contract and an option to extend it for a year," said the boss, whose star forward also grabbed 26 assists in 2023-24.

Shrewd

"We know he can play higher, at least two divisions above this, but he wanted the contract extension and wanted to pledge his allegiance to us. Someone would have to pay a good fee to get him.

"He spent two weeks at Wycombe but ultimately it wasn't to be. He is happy where he is and motivated with his business away from football. Of course, if he wants to go and better himself, we won't stand in his way.

"Jake is also a shrewd businessman and no idiot. He knows exactly what he's doing and we expect him realistically to get 30 to 40 goals in the coming season but, knowing Jake, he will go and get 60!"

Amersham remain ambitious to move further up the National League System and Atkins wants to be the man to take them up to Step 4 if he can.

The ground needs a little work to ensure it would be ready for another elevation and Town's boss is sure the competition in Premier Division North will be huge from some big spenders.

Atkins added: "We have given ourselves what we feel is a realistic target of promotion within two years. We're under no illusions as to how hard it will be because of teams spending money. Risborough Rangers are spending, Egham Town and Harefield United too.

Challenge

"North Greenford United are a very good side and Bedfont Sports will want to go back up to Step 4, but this will be a good challenge for us. We are at a slight disadvantage to some in the division but we back ourselves. We just hope we will have a good enough squad to go for it either this season or next.

"It's quite a big step up to Southern or Isthmian League football and we want to make sure that is something we are ready for if it comes. Away from the football, we need to fence off the perimeter of the pitch and put in some turnstiles but there's not loads to do if we want to go up again.

"Realistically, we want to go for the play-offs and we think we can do it in a way that is sustainable for the club. I will give it my best and the play-offs might be the realistic aim."

TOP TEEN LUCAS IS LURED BY MAGPIES

By Paul Davis

TEENAGE talent Kayden Lucas has taken his first steps to the top after signing a scholarship with Premier League giants Newcastle United.

The 16-year-old striker caught the eye of Magpies' scouts after scoring nine goals in his first six games for Clevedon Town's Under-18 side.

"I'm over the moon for Chumpy," Seasiders' first-team manager Alex White said. "He's chasing a dream, and this is a very positive step in that direction. He's a humble lad and has a brilliant attitude with obvious talent, but now the hard work starts for him.

"It's been a pleasure to have him as part of the club and help in a small way on his journey. For the club, it's obviously a great story and emphasises the strong pathway and platform we provide for young players to develop and for their talents to be recognised and showcased, but all the credit for this belongs to our Under-18 manager Lee Archer."

Indeed, Archer, a former pro himself at Bristol Rovers, has been instrumental in guiding Lucas from his time in junior football at Milton Nomads and then at North Somerset RTC after he had been rejected by other professional clubs.

When Archer took over as Under-18 manager last season, the first thing he did was bring in Lucas.

"At North Somerset I thought he had been dropping too deep," Archer explained. "So I had a chat with him about what he's good at and what a pro club would look for in him. At Clevedon we got him to play on the last man and make runs in the channels – and he was brilliant at it."

Lucas' break came in his first competitive game for Clevedon when scouts from Newcastle and Norwich were sat in the stands looking at other players. Instead, it was he who stood out in an outstanding all-round display, scoring four times, backed up with intelligent runs, pace and clever hold up play, in a 6-1 victory.

Lucas continued to play with his mates at Clevedon but when the offer came along to train at Newcastle, it proved too good to turn down, once travel assurances were made for the 600-mile round trip.

Lucas is the second young Clevedon player to play for Newcastle after left-back Ian Davies – who again only played a handful of games for the Seasiders in 1973 – made 82 appearances for the Magpies following spells at Norwich City and Detroit Express in America.

Like Davies, Lucas is far from the finished article and Archer said: "He's raw and he's got lots to work on, but as a club it's what you want with a kid at his age.

"Chumpy deserves it all for the hard work he's put in and for never giving up. The thing with Chumpy is he's such a lovely lad and an amazing individual; as a person he's well rounded, confident but not arrogant and he has his feet firmly on the ground.

"I know it won't go to his head and I know Newcastle will treat him properly. If it's right off the field for Chumpy, his head will be in the game on the pitch.

"I'm really excited to see what happens next, but we'll stay in touch, and we'll always be here for him."

Tony INCENZO TALKING POINTS



DARLING BUDS OF THE NORTH-EAST!



ON THE RISE: Darlington Town FC have been promoted to Step 6 for the first time PICTURE: Darlington Town FC

LIKE many others, I like to keep abreast of developments at upwardly mobile clubs across the country.

Indeed, the newest venue in Non-League football is Eastbourne Community Stadium where Darlington Town FC began playing right at the denouement of 2023/24. This coincided with their joyous promotion as Wearside League champions to the Northern League Division Two, joining Step 6 of the National League System.

The Darlings' media officer Callum Ward told me more about ongoing plans.

"The team was initially called Darlington Reserves and subsequently became Darlington Town in 2018," he said.

"We were based at Eastbourne Sports Complex utilising the original 3G artificial pitch but it lacked the Step 6 facilities required to get us promoted. However in 2022, we heard interesting talk of a new ground designated elsewhere on the Eastbourne site.

"A year later, it was announced Darlington Borough Council and the Football Foundation were funding stadium construction. It officially opened in May 2024 and we moved in.

Progress

"Our biggest game to date at Eastbourne Community Stadium was the Wearside League's Shipowners Cup Final when we beat Richmond Town 3-0 on May 18. It was a fantastic occasion and result.

"The attendance was 437. I'm pretty certain this is our largest ever crowd. We clinched the treble that day as we had also lifted the league's Monkwearmouth Charity Cup two weeks beforehand.

"Therefore an outstanding achievement and real testament to a bunch of lads who've resolutely stuck together. They are an absolute pleasure to watch and be involved around."

Darlington Town boast decent amenities and these can be suitably enhanced if the club climb further up the pyramid. It sounds very much like a continuing work in progress.

"The Eastbourne Community Stadium has Step 6 National League System level grading," said Ward. "Two seated stands and two covered standing areas are in place plus perimeter hard standing on three sides of the pitch. It is used by ladies' teams too alongside other community organisations. We are hoping to reveal some detailed news shortly regarding extra facilities being added to the stadium.

"Overall, it is a massive boost for everybody to attain Northern League status. The main core of players stayed loyal to us for five years and we've forever dreamed of grasping promotion."

Accordingly, the Darlings have strengthened their ranks for the new campaign. Ward pointed to a couple of significant acquisitions.

"We pulled off two major signings in Liam Jarvie and Jonny Burn whilst retaining our nucleus from the past season. That is important because we possess a truly close-knit group, although possibly some additional faces will still be arriving through the door.

"Jarvie comes in off the back of gracing Step 4 duties at Newton Aycliffe. He was a key component for them in winning the Northern League Division One during 2022/23. 'Jarv' is a local lad and good friends with the majority of our squad and management. Before his stint at Aycliffe, he played for us at Darlington Town but his goalscoring ability shone through. He was quickly approached by numerous clubs and left to star at a higher level. Yet Jarv always said he would definitely return here one day! And he couldn't have picked a better moment whereby we go into our first adventure in the Northern League."

Relationship

Defender Burn is a product of the Middlesbrough youth set-up and went on to make EFL appearances for Oldham Athletic and Bristol Rovers. He turned out for York City and Whitby Town afterwards prior to taking a break from playing last season.

"Jonny now wants to enjoy his football again and was keen to join us," Ward added.

I just wondered how far Darlington Town can advance in the medium to long term. Obviously, National League North giants Darlington FC loom on their doorstep – a club boasting lengthy historic Football League pedigree.

Nevertheless, by considering a population of almost 108,000 residents in the town, Ward is quietly confident of rosy fortunes ahead for his team.

"Only time will tell but we unquestionably aspire to compete at the right end of the Northern League Division Two table," he added. "Darlington is a huge catchment area and already has a number of clubs, although I believe there is room for everyone.

"With this in mind, we've initiated what will hopefully be a mutually beneficial relationship with Darlington FC.

"So we look forward to potential joint opportunities linked to them in the future including pre-season friendlies between the two sides."

Exciting stuff unfolding then at Eastbourne Community Stadium.

Consequently, Darlington Town are firmly on my list for a visit once 2024/25 kicks into action.

THE GOOD, THE BAD AND

ONE MORE CREATE A



GLORY DAYS: Gaz Dean became a legend at Brackley Town and, below, as a youngster at Nuneaton
PICTURE: Alamy

By CHRIS DUNLAVY

GAZ Dean thought his dreams of a life in football were over when Nuneaton Borough were liquidated in 2008.

Instead, that catastrophe provided the launchpad to a legendary Non-League career that has seen the 34-year-old captain England C, win promotions with Nuneaton and Solihull, lift the FA Trophy at Wembley for current club Brackley Town and earn a reputation as one of the finest central defenders National League North has ever seen.

Still going strong in his twilight years, Dean explains why Nuneaton's demise was so beneficial, remembers a set-piece routine that went hilariously wrong, and reveals which Premier League striker was his toughest-ever opponent.



FIRST CLUB

Nuneaton Town. The club got liquidated, reformed two divisions down and they put a bit of faith in a few lads from the youth team.

I'm humble enough to admit that I wouldn't have been ready for Conference North in my first year, so what happened was good from a selfish point of view.

It meant I got to play games, which is so hard for a youngster now. Too many of them want to play at the highest level and they're reluctant to drop down and get game time.

They want that stamp on their CV to say 'I played for such-and-such', but you don't learn that way. There's no education better than playing proper games and learning from your mistakes, regardless of the level. By the time I was 23, I felt like I was 35, just because of how much I'd played.

BEST MANAGER

I absolutely love Gavin Cowan, our current manager. He's one of my old mentors from when I was at Nuneaton so I hate to upset him… but I'd give this one to Kev Wilkin, just because of how many years we spent together.

Gav's game strategy and attention to detail is probably better, but Kev nurtured me from a young age and probably made me the player I am today.

He's just a great person. His man-management skills are brilliant. He treats you like a human being. He understands Non-League football, with work commitments and holidays and all those sorts of things. Never mind ten per cent – people would run an extra 50 per cent for Kev. A top bloke.



BEST TEAM-MATE

During my time at Nuneaton, I would share it between Andy Brown and Simon Forsdick. At Brackley, Glenn Walker, *pictured below,* and Shep Murombedzi.

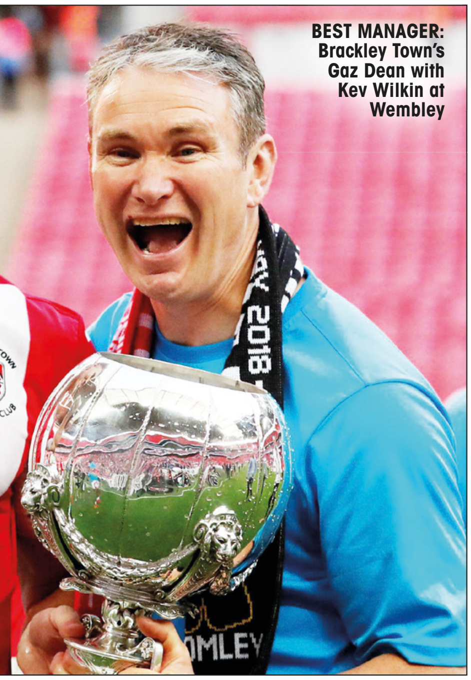
I used to play against Andy and I hated it because he had this ability to hang in the air and was really irritating to play against. He used to run around like a dog all game, he never gave you a minute.

Simon Forsdick could have ten pints the day before a game, smoke a pack of fags and still be the best player on the park. Left-back, centre-half, left-mid, it didn't matter. His performance levels never dropped. He was quite a small guy, maybe 5ft 9ins, and you could put him at centre-half and he'd look like Cannavaro.

He was such a laid-back guy as well. He didn't love football.

THE UGLY: GAZ DEAN

PROMOTION TO PERFECT LEGACY



BEST MANAGER: Brackley Town's Gaz Dean with Kev Wilkin at Wembley



TOUGHEST OPPONENT: Callum Wilson



TOUGHEST PLACE: Cambridge United's Abbey Stadium

He had no burning aspirations to be the best. But every time he crossed that white line, he was an eight out of ten, minimum.

Glenn is similar. Comfortable on the ball. Good in every position. I've seen him play practically everywhere, and he was even a good goalkeeper in training. He was 36 when he left Brackley and he was still like a Rolls Royce – he looked like he had four or five years in him.

Shep does all the horrible parts of football that often get overlooked. He intimidates people before you even get on the pitch. He hits people from behind, from the side, from every direction. He has these legs that seem to elongate and wrap around people. You almost have to play with him to appreciate what he does.

FIRST PROMOTION

My first year with Nuneaton. We came second to Leamington, then beat Chasetown in the play-off final. I was 17 or 18 at the time, and I thought 'This is easy'. As I've got older, I've realised that isn't the case!

FUNNIEST PLAYER

James Armson, comfortably. He's that guy where all you need to say is 'You won't do that' and he'll do it to prove you wrong.

He's a proper character, pulls the weirdest faces, and can do impressions of anyone. He's always up for a laugh and will do absolutely anything on a day out or night out regardless of whether he's drunk or sober. You get some people who act funny and play the class clown just to get the attention. With James, he's just naturally a hilarious person – and it helps that he looks funny as well!

FUNNIEST INCIDENT

We had this throw-in routine at Brackley with Lee Ndlovu, where he starts off lying on the floor, rolls into a somersault and uses the momentum to fling the ball into the box.

We worked on it all week in training and it went perfectly. Then he tried to do it in a game. He went through this whole routine, lying down on the floor.

As you can imagine, everybody in the ground is looking at him thinking 'What's all this about?'.

Then he did his flip and the ball landed about a foot in front of him.

Their players were looking at him like 'What the f*** was that?'. Our entire team had our hands on our knees, laughing our heads off. The crowd weren't far behind.

There's a video of it somewhere and it's honestly the most ridiculous thing you'll ever see on a football pitch!

BIGGEST ACHIEVEMENT

Being captain of England C was something I never envisaged, but I'd probably say winning the FA Trophy final with Brackley in 2018.

We had to play 11 games to win that competition. We played Braintree twice, Barrow twice, Wealdstone twice. We played Salford, Sutton and Stockport, then beat Bromley in the final on penalties. And we still got to the National North play-off final as well.

Playing in front of 35,000 people at Wembley isn't something many people do at our level of football. And I've never been in an academy, so for me to do that – when a lot of the lads I used to play with are drinking down the social club – was very special.

Because I was captain, I went up the stairs last and I kind of hung back a bit just to soak in the moment.

LOWEST MOMENT

I'd say the most recent play-off defeat, last season against Boston. They all hurt; Harrogate away, Kiddy as manager. But this year, we really felt like it was our time.

In previous years, we'd never gone into the play-offs with much momentum. This year, we were unbeaten in ten games. We'd won eight of them. We weren't playing fantastic football but we looked fitter and stronger than everyone we played against.

Then one lapse in concentration before half-time, they equalised, and it seemed to suck all the energy out of us. We ended up losing 2-1, which was devastating.

TOUGHEST PLACE TO GO

I played against Cambridge at the Abbey for Nuneaton in the National League and that was an unbelievable atmosphere. We were small fish in a very big pond and that really brought it home.

At this level, I've always thought Chorley was difficult. Not the best of surfaces, half-decent crowd, always a strong, resolute group of men.

TOUGHEST OPPONENT

Without dropping names, I played against Callum Wilson in a pre-season friendly when he was at Coventry.

I'd played against him before and never thought he was that good. Then he came back one summer and I don't know what they'd been feeding him but he was a different beast – bigger, quicker, stronger, sharper.

I've never seen anyone go shoulder to shoulder with Theo Streete and come out on top but Callum dunked him on the ground then ran through and scored. I remember thinking 'This is going to be a tough day'.

He was seriously good that season, scored a hatful of goals and within the year had got his move to Bournemouth.

FAVOURITE PLACE TO GO

I'm quite old fashioned. I love grounds with a bit of character and history. My favourite one was York Street, Boston's old stadium.

It's a proper football stadium, the atmosphere was brilliant and we always seemed to get it on a Tuesday night under the lights.

Plus, I don't think I ever lost there, either.

AMBITION

For me now, it's about legacy. I want as many trophies and medals as possible. Short-term, that's promotion with Brackley.

I'd love to look back on the day I retire that I got promoted with every team I played for. I'd love to say I've played in the third round of the FA Cup. Those are the only things missing, really.

After football, I've got no burning aspiration to be a manager. I'd love to explore different things and I feel some of my characteristics would be suited to a sporting director, or some role of that nature. If that doesn't work out, I'll be on the golf course!



FANTASY FOOTBALL LEAGUE 2024-25

PRIZE MONEY 2024-25

OVERALL WINNER £300!, 2ND £150, 3RD £75, BOTTOM £150

MANAGER OF THE MONTH 1ST £25, 2ND £10, 3RD £5, BOTTOM £10

WELCOME to the second season of Fantasy Football League. I am really pleased to announce that moving into this second season the competition has been adopted by *The Football League Paper*. It will cost you only £5 to enter and that is for the whole of the 2024/25 season. The FFL 2024/25 entry deadline will be Noon on Saturday, August 31, 2024. Fantasy Football League is based on the very successful Fantasy Non-League competition that I have run in *The Non-League Paper* for over 20 years.

You will be able to view your teams' progress throughout the season in *The Football League Paper* and on my website with weekly updates on either Saturday evening or Sunday morning. My website can be found at https://iwfantasyfootball.yolasite.com/

This season I am introducing the EARLY ENTRY BONUS into the game. Those of you who play the Fantasy Non-League competition will be very familiar with this concept.

So, how does the Early Entry Bonus work? Well, if you are brave enough to enter the competition before NOON on Saturday, August 10, 2024 you will receive an EARLY ENTRY BONUS of 500 points. The game starts on that Saturday and all players start accumulating points from that Saturday, August 10 2024 whether they have entered before the start of the season or just before the deadline on August 31, 2024. Hence the 500pts if you enter before a ball is kicked.

I still get emails and calls from Fantasy Non-League players commenting on the fact that we allow people to enter the competition nearly four weeks into the season. The reason for this is that *The FLP* does not appear until Sunday August 11, 2024. Ideally, it would be better to start the competition before the season starts but if we did, we would miss a lot of possible players. My normal answer to everyone that asks this question is everyone can either put their entry in before the season starts or before the deadline at the end of August 2024.

In fact, I know that many players in Fantasy Non-League enter at least two teams – one before the season starts and one before the August 31 deadline when they have had a chance to study the form of the first three weeks or so of the season.

There will be Manager of the Month awards through the season. The top three teams and the bottom team each month will receive a cash prize. In total, there will be eight Manager of the Month awards with the last one being April 2025. The first Manager of the Month will be September 2024.

At the End of the Season there will be cash prizes for the top three places and a prize which is personally my favourite, the prize for finishing in bottom spot, so why not enter two teams – one to win it and one to lose it. I have discovered in Fantasy Non-League that it is in fact harder to finish bottom than it is to finish in first place.

THE RULES FOR FFL 2024/25

(Please read these very carefully).

You will need to choose four teams from each of the six leagues, which will give you a total of 24 teams. You must also pick 5 FFL JOKER TEAMS from the 24 teams you have already picked. Those five teams will receive double points throughout the season. That will include all bonuses awarded during the season. It will also include the End of Season bonuses (this only applies if you keep your FFL Jokers for the whole of the season). Remember the FFL Joker teams must be teams you have already picked.

Also, if you wish you can pick five substitute teams, but these five teams must be on your FFL 2024/25 Entry Form. (More on the substitutes later in this season's rules).

POINTS ALLOCATION, IN ALL THE SIX LEAGUES

LEAGUE & CUP GAMES

Home win = 10pts + goals
Away win = 20pts + goals

Home Draw = 2pt + goals
Away Draw = 4pts + goals

Home Defeat = -10pts
Away defeats = -5pts

Every goal scored = 1pt (This counts if your team wins, draws or loses).

Every goal conceded (Win & Defeat only) -1pt.

Goal Bonus Points = 5pts (This is awarded if your teams score 4 or more goals).

Clean Sheet Bonus = 5pts (This is awarded for both wins and 0-0 draws).

Concede 4 goals = -5pts (This does not apply to drawn games).

(Two-legged ties count as two separate games. Cup replays that go to penalties. The penalties are only used to decide the winner. No points are awarded for the penalties scored).

BONUS POINTS FOR REACHING VARIOUS ROUNDS IN EACH CUP COMPETITION

For reaching the FA Cup 1st round proper and each round beyond = 25pts. (This only applies for the National League, National North & South).

For reaching the FA Cup 3rd round proper and each round beyond = 25pts. (This applies to all the leagues expect the Championship)

For reaching the Quarter-finals and each round beyond in all the cups that are involved in the competition which are listed below = 25pts. (This applies to all six leagues in the FFL 2024/25 Season).

LEAGUE LEADERS & BOTTOM CLUB BONUS

At the end of each month up to and including April 2025, the top three teams leading each of the six leagues will be awarded 30pts, 15pts & 7pts respectively. The bottom three teams of the six leagues will be awarded -30pts, -15pts & -7pts respectively. (Please remember, and this is important, these bonus points will only count towards the main FFL season total and not the Manager of the Month points).

MANAGER OF THE MONTH BONUS POINTS

Each month the top three best performing teams for each individual month in each of the six leagues will be awarded 30pts, 15pts & 7pts respectively. The bottom worst performing three teams each month will receive -30pts, -15pts & -7pts respectively (These bonus points only count in the Manager of the Month calculations).

PLAY-OFF GAMES

The actual Play-Off games themselves will be awarded points as if they were league games. The Play-Off Final winners will be awarded 50pts for gaining promotion. (These points will be awarded at the end of the season).

END OF SEASON BONUS POINTS

(These points will be awarded at the end of the FFL Season in May 2025). All League Champions will receive 250pts for winning their respective leagues. Second place will get 125pts and third place will receive 60pts.

The bottom team in each league at the end of the season's FFL will be awarded -250pts. Second from bottom -125pts and third from bottom -60pts.

Cup Winners will receive 250pts for the FA Cup & League Cup and 150pts for the other Cups.

Play-Off Winners will receive 50pts.

Remember, if your FFL Joker team get these bonuses they will be doubled. For example, a league winner picked in August 2024 at the start of the FFL Season will win you 500pts.

Substituted teams will be awarded half the End of Season bonus points & the full Play-Off Winners bonus.

The following Leagues and Cup competitions will be involved in this season's Fantasy Football League

THE CHAMPIONSHIP
FA Cup & EFL Cup

LEAGUE ONE
FA Cup, EFL Cup & EFL Trophy

LEAGUE TWO
FA Cup, EFL Cup & EFL Trophy

NATIONAL LEAGUE
FA Cup and FA Trophy

NATIONAL NORTH
FA Cup and FA Trophy

NATIONAL SOUTH
FA Cup and FA Trophy

USE OF SUBSTITUTIONS

As stated above, you can select five substitutes on your FFL 2024/25 Entry Form and out of those five substitutes you can use all five substitutes. There will be only one substitution window and that will be during the month of December 2024 with your selected changes taking effect from January 1, 2025. Details on how to use your substitutions will be released nearer the time during the month of November 2024. Please also note you can change your FFL Joker Teams on January 1, 2025 if you so wish, but this will count as one of your Substitutions.

MY FANTASY WEBSITE - FANTASY FOOTBALL LEAGUE 2024/25
iwfantasyfootball.yolasite.com

2024/25 FANTASY FOOTBALL LEAGUE ENTRY FORM

THE CHAMPIONSHIP Pick Four Teams	Code	Tick	LEAGUE ONE Pick Four Teams	Code	Tick	LEAGUE TWO Pick Four Teams	Code	Tick
BLACKBURN R	1		BARNSLEY	25		ACCRINGTON STANLEY	49	
BRISTOL CITY	2		BIRMINGHAM CITY	26		AFC WIMBLEDON	50	
BURNLEY FC	3		BLACKPOOL	27		BARROW	51	
CARDIFF CITY	4		BOLTON WANDERERS	28		BRADFORD CITY	52	
COVENTRY CITY	5		BRISTOL ROVERS	29		BROMLEY FC	53	
DERBY COUNTY	6		BURTON ALBION	30		CARLISLE UTD	54	
HULL CITY	7		CAMBRIDGE UTD	31		CHELTENHAM TOWN	55	
LEEDS UTD	8		CHARLTON ATH	32		CHESTERFIELD	56	
LUTON TOWN	9		CRAWLEY TOWN	33		COLCHESTER UTD	57	
MIDDLESBOROUGH	10		EXETER CITY	34		CREWE ALEXANDRA	58	
MILLWALL	11		HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	35		DONCASTER ROVERS	59	
NORWICH CITY	12		LEYTON ORIENT	36		FLEETWOOD TOWN	60	
OXFORD UTD	13		LINCOLN CITY	37		GILLINGHAM	61	
PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	14		MANSFIELD TOWN	38		GRIMSBY TOWN	62	
PORTSMOUTH	15		NORTHAMPTON TOWN	39		HARROGATE T	63	
PRESTON N.E.	16		PETERBOROUGH UTD	40		MK DONS	64	
Q.P.R.	17		READING	41		MORECAMBE	65	
SHEFFIELD UTD	18		ROTHERHAM UTD	42		NEWPORT COUNTY	66	
SHEFFIELD WED	19		SHREWSBURY TOWN	43		NOTTS COUNTY	67	
STOKE CITY	20		STEVENAGE	44		PORT VALE	68	
SUNDERLAND	21		STOCKPORT COUNTY	45		SALFORD CITY	69	
SWANSEA CITY	22		WIGAN ATHLETIC	46		SWINDON TOWN	70	
WATFORD	23		WREXHAM FC	47		TRANMERE R	71	
WEST BROMWICH	24		WYCOMBE WANDERERS	48		WALSALL	72	

NATIONAL PREMIER Pick Four Teams	Code	Tick	NATIONAL NORTH Pick Four Teams	Code	Tick	NATIONAL SOUTH Pick Four Teams	Code	Tick
AFC FYLDE	73		ALFRETON TOWN	97		AVELEY	121	
ALDERSHOT TOWN	74		BRACKLEY TOWN	98		BATH CITY	122	
ALTRINCHAM	75		BUXTON FC	99		BOREHAM WOOD	123	
BARNET FC	76		CHESTER FC	100		CHELMSFORD CITY	124	
BOSTON UTD	77		CHORLEY	101		CHESHAM UTD	125	
BRAINTREE TOWN	78		CURZON ASHTON	102		CHIPPENHAM TOWN	126	
DAGENHAM & RED	79		DARLINGTON FC 1883	103		DORKING WANDERERS	127	
EASTLEIGH	80		FARSLEY CELTIC	104		EASTBOURNE BOR	128	
EBBSFLEET UTD	81		HEREFORD FC	105		ENFIELD TOWN	129	
FC HALIFAX TOWN	82		KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS	106		FARNBOROUGH	130	
FOREST GREEN ROVERS	83		KING'S LYNN TOWN	107		HAMPTON & RICH	131	
GATESHEAD FC	84		LEAMINGTON	108		HEMEL HEMPSTEAD T	132	
HARTLEPOOL UTD	85		MARINE	109		HORNCHURCH	133	
MAIDENHEAD UTD	86		NEEDHAM MARKET	110		MAIDSTONE UTD	134	
OLDHAM ATHLETIC	87		OXFORD CITY	111		SALISBURY FC	135	
ROCHDALE	88		PETERBOROUGH SPORTS	112		SLOUGH TOWN	136	
SOLIHULL MOORS	89		RADCLIFFE FC	113		ST ALBANS CITY	137	
SOUTHEND UNITED	90		RUSHALL OLYMPIC	114		TONBRIDGE ANGELS	138	
SUTTON UTD	91		SCARBOROUGH ATHLETIC	115		TORQUAY UTD	139	
TAMWORTH	92		SCUNTHORPE UTD	116		TRURO CITY	140	
WEALDSTONE	93		SOUTH SHIELDS	117		WELLING UTD	141	
WOKING	94		SOUTHPORT	118		WESTON-SUPER-MARE	142	
YEOVIL TOWN	95		SPENNYMOOR TOWN	119		WEYMOUTH	143	
YORK CITY	96		WARRINGTON TOWN	120		WORTHING	144	

FFL Helpdesk – iwfantasy@btinternet.com Phone Number – 07909993854

2024/25 FANTASY FOOTBALL LEAGUE ENTRY FORM

Name: ....

Address: ....

.... Postcode: ....

Telephone: ....

Email Address: ....

Team Name (max 15 letters) ....

ONLY £5 PER ENTRY

Payment by Cheques payable to *The Football League Paper Ltd* or by Postal Order

Please tick here if you do not want to be contacted by The NLP ☐

My five substitute clubs are:

1. .... **2.** .... **3.** .... **4.** .... **5.** ....

Deadline for entry is Saturday, August 31, 2024. The game starts on Saturday, August 10, 2024. Entries before the season starts get 500 bonus points.

Please send form to: Fantasy Football League, The Football League Paper, Tuition House, St George's Road, Wimbledon SW19 4EU

ENTER ONLINE: www.theleaguepaper.com/fantasy-football-league

PRE-SEASON FIXTURES

PLEASE CHECK ALL TIMES AND DATES WITH CLUBS

SUNDAY, JULY 7

(ko 3pm unless stated)

Littlehampton Town v Bognor Regis Town

MONDAY, JULY 8

(ko 7.45pm unless stated)

Aveley v Dagenham & Redbridge
Deal Town v Kennington
Eastbourne Town v Saltdean United
Newton Aycliffe v Chester-le-Street United
Redditch. United v Lye Town
Slimbridge v Forest Green Rovers
Whitchurch Alport v Newcastle Town

TUESDAY, JULY 9

(ko 7.45pm unless stated)

AFC Mansfield v Carlton Town
AFC Sudbury v Chelmsford City
Alfreton Town v Notts County
Amersham Town v Slough Town
Ardley United v Brackley Town
Ascot United v Merstham
Ashton Town v Bury
Badshot Lea v Basingstoke Town
Basford United v Radford
Bath City v Cheltenham Town
Beaconsfield Town v Hampton & Richmond Borough
Bedworth United v Coventry Copsewood
Benfleet v Hashtag United
Billericay Town v Brightlingsea Regent
Bishops Lyedard v Taunton Town
Blyth Town v Ashington (ko 7.30pm)
Boldmere St Michaels v Romulus
Broadfields v Southall (ko 7.30pm)
Brockenhurst v Bashley
Buckhurst Hill v Basildon United (ko 7.30pm)
Camberley Town v Ashford Town (Middx) (ko 8pm)
Camelford v Tavistock (ko 7.30pm)
Cammell Laird v City of Liverpool (ko 7.30pm)
Chatham Town v Sheppey United
Chichester City v Christchurch
Cleethorpes Town v Brigg Town
Corinthian v Cray Valley PM
Coventry Sphinx v Leamington
Cowes Sports v East Cowes Victoria (ko 7.30pm)
Croydon v Molesey (at Harris Academy, Orpington)
Didcot Town v Oxford City (ko 7.30pm)
Dulwich Hamlet v Crystal Palace XI
Eastbourne Borough v Crawley Down Gatwick
Eccleshill United v Farsley Celtic
Fairford Town v Swindon Supermarine
Fareham Town v Pagham
Flackwell Heath v Maidenhead United (ko 7.30pm)
Fleetlands v Horndean (ko 7.30pm)
Frenford v Redbridge
Frickley Athletic v Sheffield (ko 7.30pm)
Glossop North End v Mossley
Goole Town v Bridlington Town
Gorleston v Leiston
Grays Athletic v Colchester United
Grimsby Borough v Grimsby Town
Guildford City v Met Police ko 7.30pm, (at Kings)
Hamworthy Recreation v Hamworthy United
Hanley Town v Curzon Ashton
Harpenden Town v Hendon
Harrow Borough v Oxhey Jets
Hartley Wintney v Aldershot Town Academy
Hayes & Yeading v Potters Bar Town
Haywards Heath Town v Horsham
Hebburn Town v Gateshead
Hemel Hempstead Town v Rayners Lane (ko 7.30pm)
Hertford Town v Wembley
Heybridge Swifts v Burnham Ramblers
Histon v Royston Town (ko 7.30pm)
Hitchin Town v Barnet
Hornchurch v Leyton Orient
Hullbridge Sports v Concord Rangers (ko 7pm)
Hyde United v FC Halifax Town
Ilkeston Town v Newark & Sherwood (ko 7.30pm)
Larkfield & New Hythe v Hythe Town
Liversedge v Wakefield
Malvern Town v Stourport Swifts
Margate v Dover Athletic
Marske United v Spennymoor Town
Melksham Town v Yeovil Town
Merthyr Town v Llanelli Town (ko 7.30pm)
MK Irish v Aylesbury United
Moneyfields v Bognor Regis Town
Monmouth Town v Cinderford Town (ko 7pm)
Nantwich Town v Warrington Town
Needham Market v Braintree Town
Newcastle Blue Star v Dunston (ko 7.30pm)
Newhaven v Hastings United
Newmarket Town v Lowestoft Town (ko 7.30pm)
New Mills v Stalybridge Celtic
Newport Pagnell Town v Bedford Town
North Ferriby v Beverley Town
Osborne Coburg v Newport (IoW) (ko 7.30pm)
Ottery St Mary v Willand Rovers (ko 7.30pm)
Petersfield Town v AFC Portchester
Quorn v Rugby Borough
Peterborough Sports v FC Peterborough
Pickering Town v Bradford City (ko 7.30pm)
Ramsgate v Bearsted (ko 7.30pm)
Ringwood Town v Bournemouth Sports (ko 7pm)
Rossington Main v Buxton
Royal Wootton Bassett Town v Wantage Town (ko 8pm)
Saffron Walden Town v Witham Town
Shaftesbury v Winchester City
Shefford Town & Campton v Biggleswade FC
Shepshed Dynamo v Chesterfield XI (ko 7.30, at University of Nottingham)
Shirebrook Town v Sherwood Colliery
Sittingbourne v Maidstone United
Snodland Town v Bowers & Pitsea
South Liverpool v Prescot Cables (ko 7.30pm)
South Park (Reigate) v Farnborough
Stamford v Harrowby United (ko 7pm)
Stanway Rovers v Walthamstow
St Neots Town v Real Bedford
Street v Wincanton Town (ko 7.30pm)
Thame United v Risborough Rangers (ko 7.30pm)
Tiverton Town v Exeter City (ko 7.30pm)
Tooting & Mitcham United v Tooting Bec
Totton & Eling v Baffins Milton Rovers
Tonbridge Angels v Sutton United
Uxbridge v Chesham United (ko 7.30pm)
Vauxhall Motors v Gresford Athletic
Verwood Town v Wimborne Town
Ware v Wingate & Finchley
Warrington Rylands v Burney (ko 7.30pm)
West Bridgford v Grantham Town
Whitby Town v Billingham Town (ko 7.30pm)
Whitehawk v Peacehaven & Telscombe
Whitstable Town v Folkestone Invicta
Wick v Littlehampton Town (ko 7.30pm)
Winsford United v FC United
Worcester Raiders v Bromsgrove Sporting
Workington v Carlisle City
Worksop Town v Deane & Dearne
Wroxham v King's Lynn Town (ko 7.30pm)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10

(ko 7.45pm unless stated)

AFC Stoneham v AFC Totton
Amesbury Town v Calne Town
Boreham Wood v Watford (ko 7.30pm)
Campion v Bradford Park Avenue
Cardiff City v Kidderminster Harriers (ko 7.30pm, at Athletics Campus)
Enfield FC v Bowers & Pitsea
Fawley v Laverstock & Ford
Garstang v Ramsbottom United
Langley v Sutton Common Rovers
Ossett United v Huddersfield Town (ko 7.30pm)
Sherborne Town v Sturminster Newton United
Stockton Town v Redcar Athletic
Sutton Common Rovers v Langley
Worsborough Bridge Athletic v Brighouse Town
Yatton & Cleeve v Clevedon Town (ko 6.30pm)

THURSDAY, JULY 11

(ko 7.45pm unless stated)

Ashford United v Glebe
Blandford United v Portland United (ko 7.30pm)
Cheshunt v FC Romania
Chester v Stoke City
Elmstead v Erith Town
Faringdon Town v Cheltenham Saracens (at Clanfield 85)
FC Elmstead v Erith Town
Prescot Cables v Widnes (ko 7.30pm)
Punjab United v Ebbsfleet United
Saffron Walden Town v Brentwood Town
Shirehampton v Larkhall Athletic (ko 7.30pm)
Thetford Town v Stanway Rovers
Wadebridge Town v Tavistock (ko 7.30pm)
Winslow United v Aylesbury United
Wombwell Town v Stocksbridge Park Steels

FRIDAY, JULY 12

(ko 7.45pm unless stated)

AFC Fylde v Blackpool (ko 7pm)
Alicante City v Chorley (ko 7pm)
Ascot United v Wiinchester City
Bashley v Poole Town
Bedford Town v Queens Park Rangers XI (ko 7pm)
Bishops Cleeve v Gloucester City
Bognor Regis Town v Pagham
Brislington v Wincanton Town
Buckland Athletic v Torquay United (ko 7.30pm)
Clanfield 85 v Wroughton
Cobham v Kingstonian
Cullompton Rangers v Tiverton Town (ko 7.30pm)
Deal Town v Bearsted
Evesham United v Cheltenham Town XI (ko 7.30pm)
Fawley v Brockenhurst
Flint Mountain v 1874 Northwich (ko 7.30pm)
Hamworthy United v Dorchester Town
Hanwell Town v Brentford B (ko 7.30pm)
Leicester Nirvana v Shepshed Dynamo
Mildenhall Town v King's Lynn Town (kop 7.30pm)
Nailsea & Tickenham v Taunton Town
Nantwich Town v Wolverhampton Wanderers U21 (ko 7.30pm)
Newhaven v Eastbourne Town
Newton Aycliffe v Shildon
North Leigh v Milton United (ko 7.30pm)
Ossett United v Sheffield Wednesday (ko 7.30pm)
Penzance v Mousehole
Rainworth MW v Sherwood Colliery
Sholing v Weymouth
Taffs Well v Merthyr Town (ko 7.30pm)
Weston-super-Mare v Exeter City (ko 7pm)
Willand Rovers v Truro City (ko 7.30pm)
Windsor v Binfield

SATURDAY, JULY 13

(ko 3pm unless stated)

AFC Aldermaston v Marlow
AFC Sudbury v Felixstowe & Walton United (ko 12pm)
AFC Telford United v Stafford Rangers
AFC Whyteleafe v East Grinstead Town
AFC Wulfrunians v Bromsgrove Sporting
Alton v Petersfield Town
Amersham Town v Brightlingsea Regent
Andover Town v AFC Netley
Anstey Nomads v Stamford
Ashford Town (Middx) v Hampton & Richmond Borough
Ashford United v Folkestone Invicta
Aveley v Billericay Town
Avro v Chadderton
Badshot Lea v Gosport Borough
Baffins Milton United v Hayes & Yeading United
Barwell v Coventry United (ko 11am)
Basford United v Hallam
Bath City v Bristol Rovers
Bedfont Sports v Hanworth Villa
Binfield v Maidenhead United
Bishop Auckland v Darlington
Blandford United v Verwood Town (ko 2pm)
Boldmere St Michaels v Rushall Olympic
Boreham Wood v Arsenal XI
Bournemouth v Westland Sports
Bradford Park Avenue v Eccleshill United
Brackley Town v Shrewsbury Town
Bracknell Town v Merstham
Bridgwater Town v Bideford (ko 2pm)
Bridlington Town v Worksop Town (o 2pm)
Bristol Manor Farm v Slough Town
Brocton v Chasetown (split match)
Bromley v Beckenham Town (ko 2pm)
Buckhurst Hill v Cambridge City
Burgess Hill Town v Brighton & Hove Albion
Camberley Town v Ash United (ko 1pm)
Canvey Island v Bishop's Stortford
Cardiff City U21 v Potters Bar Town
Carlton Town v Burton Albion
Carshalton Athletic v AFC Croydon Athletic
Carterton v Wantage Town
Charnock Richard v Bamber Bridge (ko 2pm)
Chesham United v Wealdstone (ko 1pm)
Chichester City v Worthing
Chipstead v Egham Town
Cinderford Town v Llantwit Major (ko 2.30pm)
Clanfield v Liss Athletic
Cleethorpes Town v Grimsby Town (ko 2pm)
Cockfosters v Waltham Abbey
Colliers Wood United v Reigate Priory
Colney Heath v Welwyn Garden City (ko 1pm)
Consett v Spennymoor Town
Cove v Andover New Street
Cowes Sports v Broadbridge Heath
Cranfield v Kidlington (ko 12.45pm, at Kempston Rovers FC)
Cray Wanderers v Sheffield (The Heritage Cup)
Crook Town v Stockton Town
Croydon v Beckenham Town (ko 1pm)
Deeping Rangers v Grantham Town
Didcot Town v Wallingford (ko 2pm)
Dover Athletic v Ramsgate
Droitwich Spa v Kidderminster Harriers
Dulwich Hamlet v Dagenham & Redbridge
Dunmow Town v Redbridge (ko 12pm)
Dunstable Town v Risborough Rangers
Eagle Sports v Hartford (ko 2pm)
Eastbourne Borough v Hashtag United
Eccleshall v Chasetown (split Match)
Ely City v Bury Town
Enfield Town v Tottenham Hotspur XI
Erith Town v Lewisham Borough (ko 12.30pm)
Farnborough v Sutton United
Faversham Town v Sheppey United (ko 1pm)
FC United v Barrow
Flackwell Heath v Royal Wootton Bassett (ko 2pm)
Fleet Town v Aldershot Town
Frome Town v Yeovil Town
Fulwood Amateurs v Ramsbottom United
Garforth Town v Northallerton Town (ko 1pm)
Gateshead v Sunderland (ko 5pm)
Gillingham Town v Sherborne Town
Grays Athletic v Corinthian-Casuals
Great Wakering Rovers v Southend United
Hadley v Sporting Bengal United (ko 1pm)
Halesowen Town v Tamworth
Hallen v Clevedon Town
Hampton & Richmond Borough v Ashford Town (Middx)
Hanley Town v Bury
Haringey Borough v Cheshunt
Haywards Heath Town v Lewes
Hereford v West Brom XI
Herne Bay v Kennington
Hertford Town v Chelmsford City (ko 1pm)
Heybridge Swifts v Springfield
Highworth Town v Headington Amateurs
Holmer Green v Aylesbury United (ko 7.30pm)
Holmesdale v Bowers & Pitsea
Holt United v Bashley
Holywell Town v Cammell Laird (ko 2pm)
Hornchurch v Bromley
Horndean v Havant & Waterlooville
Horsham v Woking
Horsham YMCA v Guildford City
Kirkley & Pakefield v Gorleston
Lancaster City v Altrincham (ko 2pm)
Lancing v Worthing United
Langley v Wokingham Town
Laverstock & Ford v Salisbury (ko 1.30pm)
Leamington v Coventry City XI
Leatherhead v Dorking Wanderers (ko 2pm)
Leek Town v Buxton
Liphook United v Fleetlands
Liversedge v Birtley Town
Lowestoft Town v Fakenham Town (ko 1pm)
Macclesfield v Blackburn Rovers XI
Maldon & Tiptree v Colchester United
Malvern Town v Redditch United
Margate v Concord Rangers
Melksham Town v Forest Green Rovers (ko 2pm)
Meridian v Witham Town
Moneyfields v Portsmouth (ko 2pm)
Mossley v FC Halifax Town (ko 2pm)
Newcastle Town v Crewe Alexandra
North Greenford United v Hanwell Town
North Petherwin v Bodmin Town (ko 1pm)
Oldham Athletic v Stockport County
Parkgate v Guiseley
Paulsgrove v East Cowes Victoria
Racing Club Warwick v Banbury United
Rayners Lane v Leverstock Green (ko 11am)
Reading XI v Hemel Hempstead Town (behind closed doors)
Real Bedford v Kettering Town
Redcar Athletic v Whitby Town
Redhill v Farnham Town
Roffey v Three Bridges
Roman Glass St George v Larkhall Athletic
Romsey Town v AFC Stoneham
Rossington Main v Stockbridge Park Steels
Rugby Borough v Bedworth United
Saffron Walden Town v Haverhill Rovers
Scunthorpe United v Bradford City
Seaham Red Star v Ashington
Selsey v Fareham Town
Sevenoaks Town v Rising Ballers Kensington
Shaftesbury v Bournemouth Poppies
Shirebrook Town v Chesterfield Youth
Skegness Town v Ilkeston Town
Sittingbourne v Welling United
Slimbridge v Hungerford Town
Snodland Town v Hythe Town
Southall v Burnham
South Liverpool v Bootle
South Park (Reigate) v Cray Valley PM
South Shields v Sunderland (ko 12.30pm)
Spalding United v Boston United
Squires Gate v Stalybridge Celtic (ko 12pm)
Stansfeld v Phoenix Sports
St Neots Town
Stowmarket Town v Biggleswade FC (ko 2pm)
Sturminster Newton United v Hamworthy Recreation
Swanage Town & Herston v New Milton Town
Thame United v Winslow United
Tooting & Mitcham United v Westside
Tonbridge Angels v Chatham Town
Tring Athletic v Harrow Borough
Undy AFC v Newport County (ko 1pm)
US Portsmouth v Newport (IoW)
Uxbridge v Hendon
Vauxhall Motors v Marine
Walthamstow v Enfield FC
Ware v Royston Town
Warrington Town v Rochdale
Warstones Wanderers v Lickhill Colts (ko 2pm)
Westbury United v Swindon Supermarine
Whitehawk v Steyning Town
Whyteleafe v Steyning Town
Witton Albion v Radcliffe
Wick v AFC Portchester
Wimborne Town v Eastleigh
Wingate & Finchley v Peterborough United
Winsford United v Northwich Victoria (ko 12pm)
Windsor & Eton v Met Police
Wingate & Finchley v Peterborough United U23
Wisbech Town v Peterborough Sports
Witton Albion v Radcliffe
Workington v Carlisle United
Worksop Town v Brighouse Town
Yarm & Eaglescliffe v Pickering Town (ko 2pm)
Yateley United v Downton
York City v Sheffield United (ko 12.30pm)

SUNDAY, JULY 14

(ko 7.45pm unless stated)

Plymouth Parkway v Tavistock

MONDAY, JULY 15

(ko 7.45pm unless stated)

Golcar United v Stocksbridge Park Steels
Mousehole v Exeter City (ko 7pm)
Newton Aycliffe v Northallerton Town
Uttoxeter Town v Newcastle Town
Willand Rovers v Credton United (ko 7.30pm)

TUESDAY, JULY 16

(ko 7.45pm unless stated)

Abbey Hey v Trafford
Abbey Rangers v Ashford Town
AFC Mansfield v Scarborough Athletic
AFC Stoneham v Winchester City
Alfreton Town v Chesterfield
Alresford Town v Alton
Amesbury Town v AFC Stoneham
Andover Town v Crofton Saints
Ascot United v Heliport
Aveley v Redbridge
Badshot Lea v Chertsey Town
Banbury United v Easington Sports
Barnton v Witton Albion (ko 7.30pm)
Basingstoke Town v Baffins Milton Rovers
Barwell v Belper Town
Beaconsfield Town v Hendon
Berkhamsted v Risborough Rangers
Beverley Town v Garforth Town
Bideford v Sherborne Town
Billericay Town v Chelmsford City
Binfield v Flackwell Heath
Boldmere St Michaels v Nuneaton Town
Boston United v Grimsby Town
Bowers & Pitsea v Tilbury
Bracknell Town v Westfield
Brockenhurst v Lymington Town
Bury Town v King's Lynn Town (ko 7.30pm)
Camberley Town v Windsor & Eton (ko 8pm)
Cammell Laird v Bootle (ko 7.30pm)
Canvey Island v Southend United (ko 7.30pm)
Carlton Town v Harrowby United
Carshalton Athletic v Whyteleafe (ko 7.30pm)
Chard Town v Wincanton Town
Chesham United v Barnet
Chichester City v AFC Portchester
Clevedon Town v Frome Town
Codicote v Welwyn Garden City
Cray Valley PM v Ebbsfleet United
Deal Town v Gillingham XI
District & Dearne v Cleethorpes Town
Dunstable Town v Hertford Town
Eagle Sports v Crewe (ko 6.45pm)
Eastbourne Borough v Whitehawk
Enfield Town v Arsenal U21
Exmouth Town v Tiverton Town (ko 7.30pm)
Fairford Town v Didcot Town (ko 7.30pm)
Faversham Town v Hastings United
Felixstowe & Walton United v Needham Market
Fishburn Park v Pickering Town (ko 7.30pm)
Fisher v Witham Town
Fleet Town v Hartley Wintney
Fleetlands v Moneyfields
Frickley Athletic v Brighouse Town (ko 7pm)
Glebe v Sporting Bengal United
Gosport Borough v Portsmouth XI (ko 7pm)
Gresley Rovers v Shepshed Dynamo
Guildford City v Bedfont (ko 7.30pm, at Kings)
Hamworthy United v Portland United XI
Hanwell Town v Maidenhead United
Hanworth Villa v Aldershot Town
Harpenden Town v Bedford Town
Harrogate Railway v Bridlington Town
Harrow Borough v Broadfields United
Haywards Heath Town v Three Bridges
Hebburn Town v Darlington (ko 7.30pm)
Hoddesdon Town v Basildon United
Hollands & Blair v Ashford United
Holmesdale v Phoenix Sports
Holt United v New Milton Town (ko 7pm)
Hornchurch v Sutton United
Hucknall Town v Sherwood Colliery
Huddersfield Town B v FC Halifax Town
Hullbridge Sports v Hashtag United
Hungerford Town v Hampton & Richmond Borough
Irlam Town v Mossley
Kennington v Beckenham Town
Kidsgrove Athletic v 1874 Northwich (ko 7.30pm)
Kimberley MW v Grantham Town
Lancing v Worthing XI
Leatherhead v AFC Croydon Athletic
Leiston v Braintree Town
Leverstock Green v Hadley (Herts Charity Cup, Round 1)
Lewes v Crawley Town
Longridge Town v AFC Fylde
Lutterworth Athletic v Bedworth United
Macclesfield v Warrington Town
Maidstone United v Ramsgate
Maldon & Tiptree v Colchester United U21
Margate v Dartford
Marine v Prescot Cables
Melton Town v Quorn
Mildenhall Town v AFC Sudbury (ko 7.30pm)
Nailsea & Tickenham v Larkhall Athletic (ko 7.30pm)
Newmarket Town v Cambridge United U18
Nantwich Town v Bury
Northwood v Newport (IoW)
Paulton Rovers v Chippenham Town
Penrith v Workington
Pershore Town v Evesham United (ko 7.30pm)
Petersfield Town v Horndean
Pontypridd United v Newport County
Poole Borough v Downton (ko 7pm)
Portland United v Poole Town (ko 7.30pm)
Potton United v Biggleswade FC
Portland United v Poole Town (ko 7.30pm)
Ramsbottom United v Radcliffe
Rayners Lane v Cheshunt
Redhill v Dorking Wanderers
Ringwood Town v Laverstock & Ford
Rochester United v Sheppey United
Romsey Town v Bemerton Heath Harlequins (ko 7pm)
Rushall Olympic v Sutton Coldfield Town
Saffron Walden Town v Basildon United
Scarborough Athletic v Hartlepool United
Sevenoaks Town v Bexhill United
Shifnal Town v Brackley Town
Shildon v Spennymoor Town
Shirebrook Town v Loughborough Students
Sittingbourne v Folkestone Invicta
Slimbridge v Weston-super-Mare
Silsden v Farsley Celtic
Slough Town v AFC Dunstable
Southall v Harefield United (ko 7.30pm)
South Liverpool v City of Liverpool (ko 7.30pm)
South Park Reigate v Littlehampton Town
Southport v Preston North End (ko 7.30pm)
Spalding United v Peterborough United
Stafford Rangers v Crewe Alexandra (ko 7.30pm)
St Albans City v Leyton Orient
Stamford v Doncaster Rovers (ko 7pm)
Stalybridge Celtic v FC United
Steyning Town v Peacehaven & Telscombe
St Ives Town v Peterborough Sports
Stotfold v Royston Town
Stourport Swifts v Bromsgrove Sporting
Swindon Supermarine v Hereford
Tamworth v Harborough Town
Thackley v Liversedge
Thetford Town v Diss Town
Thame United v MK Irish (ko 7.30pm)
Tooting & Mitcham United v Merstham
Tonbridge Angels v Bromley
Uxbridge v Egham Town
VCD Athletic v Herne Bay
Wakefield v Bradford Park Avenue
Warrington Rylands v Oldham Athletic
Wealdstone v Notts County ((ko 7.30pm)
Welling United v Leyton Orient
Westfields v Malvern Town
Whitley Bay v Ashington
Whitstable Town v Dover Athletic
Wick v Fareham Town (ko 7.30pm)
Wimborne Town v Weymouth
Wingate & Finchley v Brentwood Town (at The Football Pad, barnet Lane)
Winsford United v Brocton
Woodford Town v Walthamstow
Worksop Town v Buxton
Wormley Rovers v Romford
Yeovil Town v Bristol Rovers (ko 7pm)

PRE-SEASON FIXTURES

WEDNESDAY, JULY 17

(ko 7.45pm unless stated)

Avro v Guiseley
Bamber Bridge v Preston North End (ko 7pm)
Bournemouth Sports v Verwood Town (ko 7pm)
Bristol Manor Farm v Taunton Town
Buckhurst Hill v Tilbury
Burgess Hill Town v AFC Varndeanians (at Lancing FC)
Catholic United v Concord Rangers
Colliers Wood United v Banstead Rovers
Handsworth v Stocksbridge Park Steels
Ipswich Wanderers v Barking
Jim Newton Memorial Tournament, Semi-final (at Clanfield 85)
Met Police v AFC Wimbledon (ko 7.15pm)
Ossett United v Curzon Ashton
Rugby Borough v Coventry Alvis
Solihull Moors v Birmingham City (ko 7pm)
Stockton Town v West Auckland Town
Sutton Common Rovers v Sutton United
Tavistock v Torquay United (ko 7.30pm)
Virginia Water v Langley
Westfield (Sussex) v Hastings United
Whitby Town v York City (ko 7pm)
Winterton Rangers v North Ferriby
Yateley United v Ash United (ko 7.30pm)

THURSDAY, JULY 18

(ko 7.45pm unless stated)

AFC Welwyn v Hendon
Erith & Belvedere v Erith Town
Hamworthy Recreation v Bashley
Hullbridge Sports v Bowers & Pitsea
Jim Newton Memorial Tournament, Semi-final (at Clanfield 85)
Odd Down v Larkshall Athletic (ko 7.30pm)
Okehampton Argyle v Tavistock
Prescot Cables v Skelmersdale United
Stoker Gifford United v Slimbridge (ko 7.30pm)
VCD Athletic v Cray Wanderers

FRIDAY, JULY 19

(ko 7.45pm unless stated

Alton v AFC Portchester
Bamber Bridge v Salford City (ko 7.30pm)
Barking v Brentwood Town
Brockenhurst v Poole Town (ko 7.30pm)
Chatham Town v Gillingham
Chorley v Wigan Athletic (ko 7.30pm)
Fawley v Baffins Milton Rovers
FC Isle of Man v Chester (ko 7pm)
Hemel Hempstead Town v Oxford United (ko 7.30pm)
Liversedge v Guiseley
Marine v Ashton United
Mulbarton Wanderers v Lowestoft Town (ko 7.30pm)
Newmarket Town v Bishop's Stortford
Newton Aycliffe v Stockton Town
Oxford City v Oxford United (ko 7.30pm)
Ramsgate v Elmstead (ko 7.30pm)
Redditch United v Studley
Risborough Rangers v Southall
Sholing v Southampton XI
Stamford v Rotherham United (ko 7.30pm)
Stocksbridge Park Steels v Farsley Celtic
Taffs Well v Merthyr Town (ko 7.30pm, FAW Nathaniel MG Cup, Round 1)
Walsham le Willows v Bury Town
Willand Rovers v Taunton Town (ko 7.30pm)
Winsford United v Lostock Graham
Yeovil Town v Exeter City (ko 7.30pm)

SATURDAY, JULY 20

(ko 3pm unless stated

Abbey Hey v Avro
AFC Croydon Athletic v Aldershot Town
AFC Whyteleafe v Merstham
Alfreton Town v Ilkeston Town
Alvechurch v FC Halifax Town
Ascot United v Broadbridge Heath
Ashley v Badshot Lea
Aveley v St Ives Town
Aylesbury United v Edgware & Kingsbury (at Chesham United FC)
Banbury United v Chasetown
Barnton v 1874 Northwich
Barry Town United v Newport County (ko 2.30pm)
Barton Town Old Boys v Scarborough Athletic
Barwell v Corby Town (ko 11am)
Bashley v Badshot Lea
Bath City v Port Vale
Bedworth United v Ashby Ivanhoe
Bideford v Barnstaple Town (ko 2pm)
Billericay Town v Boreham Wood
Binfield v Marlow
Bishops Waltham Dynamos v Romsey Town (ko 2pm)
Blackfield & Langley v Lymington Town (ko 1pm)
Blandford United v New Milton Town
Bodmin Town v St Mawgan
Bognor Regis Town v Portsmouth (ko 1pm)
Bootle v Southport
Bridlington Town v Hallam
Brightlingsea Regent v Hashtag United
Bristol City U18 v Larkhall Athletic (ko 1pm)
Brockenhurst v Newport (IoW)
Brocton v Stafford Rangers
Buckhurst Hill v Harrow Borough
Carlton Town v Blue Star FC
Canvey Island v Concord Rangers
Carshalton Athletic v Bracknell Town
Chertsey Town v Slough Town
Cheshunt v Clapton (ko 4.15pm)
Chichester City v Moneyfields
Cinderford Town v Aberystwyth Town (ko 1pm)
Clanfield Cup (Four-team tournament)
Cleethorpes Town v Worksop Town
Cobham v Met Police (ko 1pm)
Cobham Sports v Ringwood Town
Colden Common v Fleetlands
Colliers Wood United v Amersham Town
Corinthian-Casuals v Westfield
Cove v Rushmoor Community
Cowes Sports v Wick
Cray Valley PM v Sevenoaks Town (ko 1pm)
Cray Wanderers v Bromley U21
Dagenham & Redbridge v West Ham United
Darlington v Doncaster Rovers (ko 12.30pm)
Dartmouth v Slimbridge
Didcot Town v Winchester City (ko 1pm)
Dobwalls v Clevedon Town
Dorchester Town v Rayners Lane
Dorking Wanderers v Dulwich Hamlet
Dover Athletic v Welling United
Eagle Sports v Mossley Hill (ko 1pm)
Eastbourne Town v Peacehaven & Telscombe (ko 4pm)
East Cowes Victoria v Andover Town (ko 1pm)
East Grinstead Town v Crawley Town
East Thurrock United v Grays Athletic (ko 1pm)
Eastwood CFC v Shepshed Dynamo
Ebbsfleet United v Wesh Ham United U23
Egham Town v Tadley Calleva
Enfield FC v Woodford Town
Euxton Villa v Chorley
Eynesbury Rovers v Cambridge City
Fairford Town v Kidlington (at Cirencester Town FC)
Farleigh Rovers v Croydon (ko 1pm)
Farnborough v Hartley Wintney
Farnham Town v Walton & Hersham
FC United v Salford City
Felixstowe & Walton United v Wesel
Fisher v Redbridge
Flackwell Heath v Penn & Tylers Green (ko 2pm)
Fleet Town v AFC Stoneham
Fleetwood Town v Rochdale (behind closed doors)
Garforth Town v Hebburn Town (ko 1pm)
Glossop North End v Newcastle Town
Godalming Town v Littlehampton Town
Golcar United v Bradford Park Avenue
Gorleston v Norwich City
Gosport Borough v Horsham
Goytre United v Bishops Cleeve
Guildford City v Banstead Athletic (ko 2.15pm)
Hadley v Potters Bar Town (ko 1pm)
Harborough Town v Real Bedford
Harley Town v Three Bridges
Harpenden Town v Hertford Town
Hassocks v Burgess Hill Town
Hayes & Yeading v Hampton & Richmond Borough
Heanor Town v Sherwood Colliery
Hemel Hempstead Town v Barnet (ko 1pm)
Hendon v Haringey Borough (ko 2pm)
Herne Bay v Folkestone Invicta
Heybridge Swifts v Bishop's Stortford
Highgate United v Boldmere St Michaels
Hilltop v Leatherhead
Holker Old Boys v Workington
Holmesdale v Erith Town
Holt United v Bournemouth
Hornchurch v Braintree Town
Hungerford Town v Chippenham Town
Hythe & Dibden v Petersfield Town
Ipswich Wanderers v Long Melford
Laverstock & Ford v Horndean
Leighton Town v Basildon Unietd
Leverstock Green v Bedford Town (ko 1.30pm)
Lewes v Worthing
Lichfield City v Bromsgrove Sporting
Lincoln United v Basford United
Lingfield v Beckenham Town (ko 1pm)
Lordswood v Sittingbourne
Maghull v South Liverpool
Maidstone United v Woking
Malvern Town v Loughborough Students
Marlow v Langley
Merthyr Town v Haverfordwest County (ko 2.30pm)
Mickleover v Kidderminster Harriers
Midhurst & Easebourne v Camberley Town
Mossley v Emley
Mousehole v Briton Ferry Llansawel (ko 12.30pm)
Nantwich Town v Blackburn Rovers XI
Needham Market v Maldon & Tiptree
Newport Pagnell Town v Stotfold
Northallerton Town v Pickering Town
North Greenford United v Uxbridge
North Leigh v Mangotsfield United
Oldham Athletic v Lincoln City
Oxford City v Woking
Phoenix Sports v Sutton Athletic
Poole Borough v Verwood Town
Portland United v Bovey Tracey (ko 1pm)
Prescot Cables v Hanley Town
Prestwich Heys v Curzon Ashton
Quorn v Brackley Town
Ramsbottom United v Ossett United
Radcliffe v Lancaster City (ko 2pm, at The Bowl, Isle of Man)
Raynes Park Vale v Kingstonian (ko 1pm)
Reading City v Royal Wootton Bassett Town (ko 2pm)
Retford United v Sheffield (ko 1.30pm)
Rochester United v Hythe Town
Roman Glass St George v Westbury United
Rossington Main v North Ferriby
Royston Town v Chelmsford City
Rugby Borough v Cove Rangers
Saffron Walden Town v Arlesey Town
Seaham Red Star v Dunston
Shaftesbury v Salisbury
Sheppey United v Bowers & Pitsea
Shoreham v Lancing
Shrewton United v Downton
South Park (Reigate) v Horsham YMCA
South Shields v Hartlepool United
Spalding United v Rotherham United
Spelthorne Sports v Hanworth Villa
Spennymoor Town v Doncaster Rovers
Sporting Club Inkberrow v Evesham United
St Albans City v Tottenham Hotspur XI
Stamford v King's Lynn Town (ko 4.45pm)
Steyning Town v Hastings United
Stockbridge v Amesbury Town
Stockport Town v Stalybridge Celtic
Stratford Town v Leamington
Sutton Athletic v Phoenix Sports
Swindon Supermarine v Maidenhead United
Takeley v Ware
Tamworth v Walsall
Tavistock v Truro City
Thame United v Aylesbury Vale Dynamos
Tilbury v Romford
Tiverton Town v Weston-super-Mare
TNS v Macclesfield
Tonbridge Angels v Margate
Tooting & Mitcham United v Chessington & Hook
Trafford v Bury
Vauxhall Motors v Warrington Rylands
Warrington Town v Altrincham
Wellingborough Town v Waltham Abbey
Welwyn Garden City v Enfield Town
West Essex v Walthamstow
Whitehawk v Ashford Town
Wincanton Town v Corsham Town
Wingate & Finchley v Aldershot Town
Wigan Athletic v AFC Fylde
Witton Albion v Winsford Town
Wombwell Town v Brighouse Town
Workington v Morecambe
York City v Grimsby Town

SUNDAY, JULY 21

(ko 3pm unless stated)

Ashford United v Kennington (ko 1pm)
Chester v Lancaster City (ko 11am at The Bowl, Isle of Man)
Jim Newton Memorial Tournament, Final (ko 4pm, at Clanfield 85)
Welling United v Erith & Belvedere

MONDAY, JULY 22

(ko 7.45pm unless stated)

Alsager Town v Nantwich Town
Bradford Town v Larkhall Athletic (ko 7.30pm)
Carshalton Athletic v Merstham (ko 7.30pm)
Chelmsford City v Barnet
Cribbs v Taunton Town
Foley Meir v Newcastle Town
Stockport Town v Witton Albion (ko 7.30pm)
West Essex v Redbridge

TUESDAY, JULY 23

(ko 7.45pm unless stated)

Abbey Rangers v Egham Town
AFC Croydon Athletic v Haywards Heath Town (ko 7.30pm)
AFC Stoneham v Camberley Town
Aldershot Town v Bristol City
Alfreton Town v Rotherham United (ko 7.30pm)
Alton v Laverstock & Ford
Altrincham v Salford City
Amesbury Town v Park United
Andover Town v Brockenhurst (ko 7pm)
Arlesey Town v Enfield FC
Ascot United v Virginia Water
Ashford United v Maidstone United
Barnoldswick Town v Bamber Bridge
Barnstaple Town v Tavistock
Barwell v Leicester City XI
Basford United v Grantham Town
Bashley v Dorchester Town
Beaconsfield Town v Winchester City
Beckenham Town v Badshot Lea (ko 7.30pm)
Bedfont Sports v Guildford City
Bideford v Plymouth Parkway (ko 7.30pm)
Biggleswade FC v Cambridge United XI (at Stratton School, Biggleswade)
Billericay Town v Witham Town
Bishop's Stortford v Welling United
Bodmin Town v Ivybridge Town (ko 7.30pm)
Boldmere St Michaels v Dudley Town
Bootle v Warrington Rylands
Boreham Wood v Brentford XI (ko 7.30pm)
Boston United v Peterborough United
Bradford Park Avenue v Bradford City
Braintree Town v Crystal Palace XI
Bridlington Town v Beverley Town (ko 7.30pm)
Brimscombe & Thrupp v Cinderford Town
Bromsgrove Sporting v Birmingham City U21
Buxton v Matlock Town
Canvey Island v Aveley
Carlton Town v Gedling MW
Chasetown v Walsall Wood
Chatham Town v Sittingbourne
Chertsey Town v Chesham United (ko 7.30pm)
Cheshunt v Ware (Herts Charity Cup, Quarter-final)
Chippenham Town v Swindon Supermarine (ko 7.30pm)
Chorley v Blackburn Wanderers (ko 7.30pm)
Clevedon Town v Taunton Town
Cobham v Farnham Town
Cockfosters v Haringey Borough
Colliers Wood United v Tooting Bec
Concord Rangers v Colchester United U21
Corby Town v Spalding United
Corinthian v Margate
Cove v Yateley United
Cray Wanderers v Millwall XI
Croydon v Larkfield & New Hythe (at Harris Academy, Orpington)
Curzon Ashton v AFC Fylde (ko 7.30pm)
Dartford v Gillingham
Darlington v York City (ko 7.30pm)
Dereham Town v Leiston
Didcot Town v Hemel Hempstead Town (ko 7.30pm)
Dulwich Hamlet v Hornchurch
Dunstable Town v Cambridge City (ko 7.15pm)
Eastbourne Town v Hastings United
East Grinstead Town v Lewes
Erith Town v Bromley
Evesham United v Redditch United
Eversley & California v Ash United (ko 7.30pm)
Fareham Town v New Milton Town
Flackwell Heath v Windsor & Eton (ko 7.30pm)
Fleetlands v Petersfield Town
Folkestone Invicta v Deal Town
Grays Athletic v Tilbury
Great Wakering Rovers v Brentwood Town
Guisborough Town v Whitby Town (ko 7.30pm)
Halstead Town v Basildon United
Harborough Town v Brackley Town
Hartley Wintney v Bracknell Town (ko 7.30pm)
Hashtag United v AFC Sudbury
Hayes & Yeading v Enfield Town
Herne Bay v Tunbridge Wells
Hertford Town v Hendon
Horndean v Gosport Borough
Horsham v Broadbridge Heath
Hyde United v Mossley
Ilkeston Town v Belper Town
Infinity v AFC Portchester
Ipswich Wanderers v Hadleigh United
Kintbury Rangers v Royal Wootton Bassett Town (ko 7.30pm)
Knaresborough Town v Garforth Town (ko 7.30pm)
Leamington v Racing Club Warwick
Liversedge v Scarborough Athletic
Macclesfield v Rochdale
Marlow v Potters Bar Town
Met Police v Hampton & Richmond Borough
Melksham Town v Bath City
Melton Town v Stamford
Mildenhall Town v Thetford Town
Moneyfields v Aldershot Town
Morpeth Town v Ashington
Needham Market v Brightlingsea Regent
Newmarket Town v Godmanchester Rovers
Newport Pagnell Town v Real Bedford
North Greenford United v Southall (ko 7.30pm)
North Shields v Dunston (ko 7.30pm)
Ossett United v Hemsworth MW
Oxford City v Sutton United
Pagham v Littlehampton Town
Parkgate v Cleethorpes Town (ko 7pm)
Pershore Town v Malvern Town
Poole Town v Downton (ko 7.30pm)
Radcliffe v FC Halifax Town
Ramsbottom United v Northwich Victoria
Rayners Lane v Hanwell Town
Risborough Rangers v Harrow Borough
Rochester United v Phoenix Sports
Roffey v Tooting & Mitcham United
Romsey Town v Stockbridge (ko 7pm)
Royston Town v St Albans City
Rushall Olympic v West Bromwich Albion U23
Saltash United v Mousehole (ko 7.30pm)
Shaftesbury v Bournemouth
Sheffield v Chesterfield XI
Shefford Town & Campton v Welwyn Garden City
Shepshed Dynamo v Mickleover
Soham Town Rangers v King's Lynn Town
South Park (Reigate) v Three Bridges
Southport v Oldham Athletic (ko 7.30pm)
Spelthorne Sports v Uxbridge (ko 7.30pm)
Stafford Rangers v Sutton Coldfield Town
Stocksbridge Park Steels v Retford United
Stockton Town v Spennymoor Town
Stotfold v Biggleswade Town
Tamworth v Kidderminster Harriers
Thame United v Bedford Town
Tiverton Town v Willand Rovers (ko 7.30pm)
Tonbridge Angels v Ebbsfleet United
Trafford v FC United
US Portsmouth v East Cowes Victoria
Vauxhall Motors v AFC Crewe (ko 7.30pm)
VCD Athletic v Sheppey United
Walthamstow v Leyton Orient
Wealdstone v Crawley Town (ko 7.30pm)
Wembley v Hadley
Westbury United v Frome Town
Weston-super-Mare v Bristol City U21
Weymouth v Eastleigh
Whitecroft & Barton Sports v Newport (IoW)
Whitehawk v Lancing
Winslow United v AFC Dunstable
Woking v Binfield (at Woking training ground)
Worcester City v Bishops Cleeve
Worksop Town v Hallam
Wroxham v Norwich City U23 (ko 7pm)
Yaxley v Peterborough Sports

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24

(ko 7.45pm unless stated)

1874 Northwich v Salford City (ko 7.30pm)
Baffins Milton Rovers v Lymington Town
Chelmsford City v MK Dons
Clipstone v Sherwood Colliery
Eagle Sports v St Helens Town U23 (ko 6.45pm)
Eccleshill v Stafford Rangers
Enfield Borough v Romford
Fawley v Bemerton Heath Harlequins
Gateshead v Middlesbrough
Havant & Waterlooville v Farnborough
Maidenhead United v West Ham United U21
Middlezoy Rovers v Sherborne Town
North Ferriby v Hull City U23
Sevenoaks Town v Charlton Athletic XI (ko 7.30pm)
Sutton Common Rovers v Tooting & Mitcham United
Warrington Town v Salford City

THURSDAY, JULY 25

(ko 7.45pm unless stated)

Burgess Hill Town v Knaphill (ko 7.30pm)
Hamworthy Recreation v Wimborne Town
Kidlington v Highworth Town
Phoenix Sports v Falconwood
Rayners Lane v Harefield United
Shrewton United v Wincanton Town (ko 7.30pm)
Sittingbourne v Bowers & Pitsea
Stocksbridge Park Steels v Chesterfield XI (ko 7.30pm)
Stourbridge v Hereford

FRIDAY, JULY 26

(ko 7.45pm unless stated)

Ashton United v Warrington Town
Bishops Cleeve v Taunton Town
Braintree Town v Cambridge United
Bracknell Town v Binfield
Chatham Town v Three Bridges
Chippenham Town XI v Larkhall Athletic
Colliers Wood United v AFC Wimbledon (ko 7.30pm)
Concord Rangers v Hashtag United
Cray Wanderers v Crystal Palace XI
Exmouth Town v Poole Town (ko 7pm)
Fawley v Stockbridge
Felixstowe & Walton United v Trimley Red Devils (ko 7pm)
Gosport Borough v AFC Bournemouth XI (ko 7pm)
Ipswich Wanderers v Needham Market (ko 7.30pm)
Launceston v Mousehole (ko 7.30pm)
Leamington v Leicester City XI (ko 7.30pm)
Littlehampton Town v Worthing XI
Merthyr Town v Penybont (ko 7.30pm)
Nantwich Town v Prescot Cables
Petersfield Town v Fareham Town
Romsey Town v Colden Common
Sheffield v Matlock Town
Sheppey United v Gillingham (ko 7.30pm)
Sholing v Hemel Hempstead Town (ko 7.30pm)
Slimbridge v Shortwood United
Stamford v Peterborough United (ko 7.30pm)
Stockton Town v Bishop Auckland
Tavistock v Liskeard Athletic (ko 7.30pm)
Tiverton Town v Truro City (ko 7.30pm)
Wembley v Harrow Borough
Witham Town v Kings Park Rangers
Yate Town v Westbury United

SATURDAY, JULY 27

(ko 7.45pm unless stated)

Abbey Rangers v Westfield
AFC Dunstable v Waltham Abbey
AFC Fylde v Tranmere Rovers
AFC Portchester v Shaftesbury

PLEASE CHECK ALL TIMES AND DATES WITH CLUBS

AFC Stoneham v Ascot United
AFC Totton v Aldershot Town
Alton v Baffins Milton Rovers
Alvechurch v Bedworth United
Arundel v Littlehampton Town
Ashington v Workington
Aveley v Colchester United
Avro v Curzon Ashton
Amesbury Town v Shrewton United
Andover New Street v Fleetlands
Ascot United v AFC Stoneham (ko 1pm)
Ash United v Cranleigh
Ashington v Workington
Avro v Curzon Ashton
Bashley v Winchester City
Bath City v Bristol City U21
Beckenham Town v Horsham YMCA
Bedford Town v Watford XI
Bideford v Newton Abbot Spurs (ko 2pm)
Blackfield & Langley v Newport (IoW)
Blandford United v Downton
Boreham Wood v Chelsea XI
Bowers & Pitsea v Erith Town
Brackley Town v Northampton Town
Brighouse Town v Stocksbridge Park Steels (ko 2pm)
Brightlingsea Regent v Enfield FC
Braodbridge Heath v Chichester City
Brockenhurst v Abingdon United
Bromsgrove Sporting v Solihull Moors
Burnham v Badshot Lea
Bury Town v Ipswich Town U23
Carlton Town v Barwell
Carshalton Athletic v Marlow
Chasetown v Sutton Coldfield Town
Chatham Town v Maidstone United
Chertsey Town v Hampton & Richmond Borough
Chester v Altrincham
Chipstead v Sevenoaks Town
Chorley v Liverpool U21
Cinderford Town v Highworth Town
Cliftonville v Southport
Cobham Sports v Verwood Town (ko 2pm)
Coleshill Town v Hanley Town
Cove v Dial Square
Cray Valley PM v Welling United (ko 1pm)
Croydon v Rising Ballers Kensington (at Croydon Sports Arena)
Dagenham & Redbridge v Tottenham Hotspur U21
Dartford v Sutton United
Deal Town v Faversham Strike Force
Didcot Town v Reading U23 (ko 2pm)
Dorking Wanderers v Farnham Town
Dover Athletic v Tonbridge Angels
Eagle Sports v Bruche (ko 12.30pm)
Eastbourne Borough v Charlton Athletic XI
East Cowes Victoria v Redhill
Egham Town v Corinthian-Casuals
Enfield Town v Hendon (ko 1pm, FSA Cup)
Eynesbury Rovers v Stotfold
Farnborough v Yeovil Town
FC United v Basingstoke Town
Folkestone Invicta v Margate
Forest Row v East Grinstead Town
Garforth Town v Worksop Town
Godalming Town v Guildford City
Grantham Town v Spalding United (Lincolnshire Senior Cup, Quarter-final)
Grays Athletic v Ware
Guiseley v Leeds United U21
Hadley v Wingate & Finchley
Halesowen Town v Hereford
Hanworth Villa v Billericay Town
Harefield United v Hanwell Town
Haringey Borough v Hertford Town
Hartlepool United v Sunderland U21
Hartley Wintney v Tadley Calleva
Herne Bay v Tilbury
Heybridge Swifts v Canvey Island
Holmer Green v Risborough Rangers
Holt United v Blackfield & Langley (ko 7pm)
Hornchurch v Barnet
Horndean v Bognor Regis Town
Horsham v South Park (Reigate)
Hungerford Town v Chesham United
Hythe Town v Dulwich Hamlet
Kettering Town v Basford United
Kidderminster Harriers v Newport County (ko 2pm)
Kidlington v Hartpury University
Kingstonian v Bromley
Lancing v Hastings United
Leiston v King's Lynn Town
Lichfield City v Chasetown (split match)
Lowestoft Town v Gorleston (ko 1pm)
Macclesfield v Buxton
Maldon & Tiptree v Bishop's Stortford
Malvern Town v Stourbridge
Marine v Widnes
Melksham Town v Chippenham Town (Ian Monnery Cup)
Meridian VP v Sporting Bengal United
Merstham v Leatherhead
Met Police v Molesey
MK Dons v Wealdstone
Moneyfields v Hamble Club
Morpeth Town v Darlington
Mossley v Bradford Park Avenue
New Milton Town v Christchurch
Newquay v Bournemouth
North Ferriby v Farsley Celtic
Peterborough Sports v Boston United
Phoenix Sports v Basildon United
Plymouth Argyle v Tavistock
Portland United v Holt United
Quorn v Ossett United
Radcliffe v Oldham Athletic
Ramsgate v Brentwood Town
Reading City v Ashford Town
Real Bedford v Royston Town
Redbridge v SE Dons
Redditch United v Walsall Wood
Ringwood Town v Hamworthy Recreation
Rochdale v Carlisle United
Royal Wootton Bassett Town v Forest Green Rovers
Rugby Town v North Leigh
Salisbury v Woking
Scarborough Athletic v Scarborough District XI (at Scarborough Rugby Club)
Scunthorpe United v FC Halifax Town (ko 1pm)
Shepshed Dynamo v Sherwood Colliery
Sherborne Town v Cribbs
Slough Town v Potters Bar Town (ko 1pm)
Southall v Beaconsfield Town (ko 11am)
Southend United v Gillingham (ko 1pm)
South Shields v Grimsby Town
Spennymoor Town v Whitby Town
Sporting Khalsa v Harborough Town
St Albans City v Luton Town XI
Stafford Rangers v Whitchurch Alport
Stalybridge Celtic v Hyde United
Steyning Town v Montpelier Villa
St Ives Town v Cambridge City
Stoke Gabriel v Bodmin Town
Storrington v Clanfield
Sutton Coldfield Town v Chasetown (split match)
Swindon Supermarine v Evesham United
Tamworth v Crewe Alexandra
Thame United v Banbury United
Tooting & Mitcham United v AFC Croydon Athletic
Torquay United v Plymouth Argyle
Uxbridge v Flackwell Heath
Vauxhall Motors v Tranmere Rovers
Wallingford & Crowmarsh v Cowes Sports
Walthamstow v Ashford United
Walton & Hersham v Lewes
Ware v Grays Athletic
Warstones Wanderers v Worcester City Development (ko 1pm)
Welwyn Garden City v Hayes & Yeading United (ko 1pm)
Westfields v Boldmere St Michaels
Weston-super-Mare v Cardiff City U21 (ko 1pm)
Weymouth v AFC Bournemouth U21
Whitehawk v Worthing
Willand Rovers v Plymouth Parkway
Witton Albion v Lancaster City
Wroxham v Cheshunt
Wythenshawe v Barnoldswick Town (NWCFL Super Cup)
Yateley United v Camberley Town
York City v Notts County

SUNDAY, JULY 28

(ko 3pm unless stated)

Aylesbury United v MK Dons (at Chesham United FC)
Eastleigh v Swindon Town (ko 1pm)
Newcastle Town v Stoke City U21

MONDAY, JULY 29

(ko 3pm unless stated)

Cullompton Rangers v Willand Rovers () ko 7.30pm)
Redbridge v Newbury Forest
Yate Town v Tiverton Town

TUESDAY, JULY 30

(ko 7.45pm unless stated)

AFC Dunstable v Bedford Town
AFC Totton v Eastbourne Borough
Aldershot Town v Crawley Town
Ashington v Spennymoor Town
Ash United v Burnham
Ashington v Spennymoor Town (ko 7.30pm)
Ashton United v FC Halifax Town
Atherton Collieries v Bamber Bridge
Aveley v Hashtag United
Avro v Rochdale
Barrow v AFC Fylde
Basford United v Long Eaton United
Bashley v Wimborne Town
Basildon United v Basildon Town
Beckenham Town v Lewes (ko 7.30pm)
Bodmin Town v Torpoint Athletic XI (ko 7.30pm)
Boldmere St Michaels v Bromsgrove Sporting
Boston United v Notts County
Bradford Park Avenue v Stalybridge Celtic
Brading Town v Newport (IoW)
Braintree Town v Bromley
Broadbridge Heath v Charlton Athletic U23
Buckland Athletic v Yeovil Town (ko 7pm)
Bury Town v AFC Sudbury
Camberley Town v Binfield
Canterbury City v Hythe Town (ko 7.30pm)
Canvey Island v Tilbury
Chasetown v Stourbridge (ko 7pm)
Chatham Town v Bromley
Chesham United v Watford
Chippenham Town v Eastleigh (ko 7.30pm)
Chipstead v Three Bridges
Clanfield v Gosport Borough
Clitheroe v Lancaster City
Corinthian-Casuals v Leatherhead
Cove v Eversley & California
Curzon Ashton v Altrincham
Downton v Moneyfields
Dunston UTS v Darlington (ko 7.30pm)
East Grinstead Town v Cray Valley PM
Enfield Town v Billericay Town
Fareham Town v Havant & Waterlooville
Farnham Town v Bracknell Town
FC United v Farsley Celtic
Fleet Town v Badshot Lea
Folkestone Invicta v Maidstone United
Frome Town v Bath City
Godalming Town v Met Police
Grays Athletic v Potters Bar Town
Guiseley v Barnsley XI
Hampton & Richmond Borough v Oxford City
Hamworthy United v Christchurch
Hanwell Town v QPR XI (ko 7.30pm)
Harborough Town v Northampton Town XI
Harefield United v Uxbridge (ko 7.30pm)
Haringey Borough v Dulwich Hamlet
Harrow Borough v Leverstock Green
Hartlepool United v Scunthorpe United
Hayes & Yeading v St Albans City
Hendon v Boreham Wood (ko 7.30pm)
Herne Bay v Gillingham XI
Hertford Town v Cheshunt
Hofrndean v Chichester City
Ilkeston Town v Mansfield Town (ko 7.30pm)
Ipswich Wanderers v Henley
Kings Langley v Wealdstone (ko 7.30pm)
Knaphill v Kingstonian
Larkhall Athletic v Dorchester Town (ko 7.30pm)
Leiston v Colchester United XI (ko 7.30pm)
Maidenhead United v AFC Wimbledon (ko 7.30pm)
Malvern Town v Worcester City
Marine v Bootle (ko 7.30pm)
Mildenhall Town v Needham Market
Newquay v Mousehole
Pickering Town v Scarborough Athletic
Poole Town v Worthing
Rushall Olympic v Tamworth
Rushden & Higham United v Biggleswade FC
Salisbury v Winchester City
Sholing v AFC Portchester
South Normanton Athletic v Sherwood Colliery
Southport v Morecambe (ko 7.30pm)
Spalding United v Macclesfield XI
Stotfold v Hitchin Town
Stourport Swifts v Redditch United
Tavistock v Callington Town (ko 7.30pm)
Tonbridge Angels v Charlton Athletic
Tooting & Mitcham United v Raynes Park Vale
Torquay United v Exeter City (ko 7.30pm)
Walthamstow v Walthamstow Res
Walton & Hersham v AFC Croydon Athletic (ko 7.30pm)
Warrington Rylands v Salford City (ko 7.30m)
Warrington Town v Oldham Athletic
Welling United v Ebbsfleet United
Welwyn Garden City v Wingate & Finchley
Westfield v Farnborough
Weston-Super-Mare v Merthyr Town
Witham Town v Chelmsford City (Essex Senior Cup Final)
Witton Albion v 1874 Northwich (ko 7.30pm)
Workington v Bolton Wanderers (ko 7.30pm)
Worksop Town v Sheffield Wednesday
Wythenshawe Town v Macclesfield XI

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31

(ko 7.45pm unless stated)

Alfreton Town v Grimsby Town (ko 7.30pm)
Banbury United v MK Dons XI
Colliers Wood United v Frenches Athletic
Evesham United v Forest Green Rovers (ko 7pm)
Hastings United v Brighton & Hove Albion U21
Havant & Waterlooville v Moneyfields
Horsham v Steyning Town (ko 7.30pm, Sussex Community Shield, Lancing FC)
Taunton Town v Brislington (ko 7.30pm, Somerset County Cup Final, at Bath City FC)
Wroxham v Boston United U23

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2

(ko 7.45pm unless stated)

AFC Telford United v Tamworth
Bury Town v Leiston
Horsham v Three Bridges
Scunthorpe United v Chesterfield (ko 7.30pm)
Sholing v Bashley

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3

(ko 3pm unless stated)

Aldershot Town v Bromley
Altrincham v Bradford City
Bamber Bridge v Warrington Town
Beckenham Town v Cray Wanderers
Bedford Town v Concord Rangers
Billericay Town v Hornchurch
Bradford Park Avenue v Farsley Celtic
Brentwood Town v Hashtag United
Bromsgrove Sporting v Marlow
Burgess Hill Town v South Park (Reigate)
Canvey Island v Brightlingsea Regent
Carlton Town v Alvechurch
Carshalton Athletic v AFC Wimbledon
Chelmsford City v Southend United
Chertsey Town v Cray Valley PM
Chesham United v Brackley Town
Cheshunt v Aveley
Chichester City v Winchester City
Chippenham Town v Southampton U21
Clitheroe v Workington
Concord Rangers v Hendon
Curzon Ashton v FC Halifax Town
Dagenham & Redbridge v Leyton Orient
Darlington v Harrogate Town
Dartford v Boreham Wood
Dorking Wanderers v Rushall Olympic
Dover Athletic v Lancing
Dulwich Hamlet v Merthyr Town
Evesham United v North Leigh (ko 1pm)
Exeter City v Eastleigh
Farnborough v Maidenhead United
Felixstowe & Walton United v Lowestoft Town
Gainsborough Trinity v Boston United
Guiseley v Cleethorpes Town
Hadley v Basildon United
Hampton & Richmond Borough v Bishop's Stortford
Hanwell Town v Slough Town
Haringey Borough v Hayes & Yeading United
Harrow Borough v Walthamstow
Hashtag United v Brentwood Town
Hastings United v Southampton U18
Hereford v Newport County
Herne Bay v Chatham Town
Heybridge Swifts v Bowers & Pitsea
Ilkeston Town v Harborough Town
King's Lynn Town v Luton Town (ko 4.45pm)
Lancaster City v Accrington Stanley
Lancing v Badshot Lea
Leamington v Halesowen Town
Leatherhead v Walton & Hersham
Lewes v Eastbourne Borough
Macclesfield v Chester
Maidstone United v Whitehawk
Maldon & Tiptree v Enfield FC
Marine v Hyde United (ko 1pm)
Mousehole v Plymouth Parkway
Newton Aycliffe v Basford United
Oldham Athletic v Shrewsbury Town
Oxford City v Braintree Town
Pontefract Collieries v Stalybridge Celtic
Prescot Cables v Everton U23
Quorn v Spalding United
Radcliffe v AFC Fylde
Ramsgate v Kingstonian
Redditch United v Swindon Supermarine
Ramsgate v Kingstonian
Rochdale v Salford City
Salisbury v Gosport Borough
Scarborough Athletic v FC United
Solihull Moors v Walsall
Southport v FC United
Spennymoor Town v York City
Stafford Rangers v Buxton
St Albans City v Potters Bar Town (Herts Senior Cup Final)
Stamford v Peterborough Sports
Taunton Town v Bedford Town
Tiverton Town v Torquay United
Tonbridge Angels v Folkestone Invicta
Ware v Enfield Town
Warrington Rylands v Witton Albion
Wealdstone v Hemel Hempstead Town
Welling United v Sutton United
Westfield v Margate
Weston-super-Mare v Yeovil Town
Weymouth v Dorchester Town
Whitby Town v Stockton Town
Wingate & Finchley v Watford U23
Woking v Gillingham
Worksop Town v Scarborough Athletic
Yate Town v Bath City

SUNDAY, AUGUST 4

(ko 3pm unless stated)

Bognor Regis Town v Worthing (ko 2pm)
Clanfield v Havant & Waterlooville

MONDAY, AUGUST 5

(ko 7.45pm unless stated)

Cheshunt v Leyton Orient U21

TUESDAY, AUGUST 6

(ko 7.45pm unless stated)

Biggleswade FC v Peterborough United XI (ko 8pm, at Stratton School, Biggleswade)
Bridlington Town v Scarborough Athletic
Chorley v Manchester City XI (ko 7.30pm)
Cray Wanderers v Tottenham Hotspur XI
Havant & Waterlooville v Clanfield
Hendon v Arsenal XI
Leatherhead v Crystal Palace XI
Slough Town v Luton Town XI
Waltham Abbey v QPR U21

Classifieds

AT THE MATCH

PHOTOGRAPHY FROM WHEN SATURDAY COMES
HARDBACK, 240 PAGES £40

AT THE MATCH is a landmark photobook published by When Saturday Comes, the independent football magazine, to celebrate two decades of images captured by its team of photographers Simon Gill, Colin McPherson and Paul Thompson.

The photography documents the matchday experience across the UK and Ireland, capturing the jubilation and despair of the game but more importantly the ritual of going to football, whether it's in the Premier League or at grassroots level.

With an introduction by author Daniel Gray, the images reveal the game as it is experienced by those who participate in it, with a focus on the connection between clubs and their supporters. This approach is what makes the collection unrivalled and the book unique, with the images telling stories of how and where we enjoy our football.

Originally backed by nearly 400 supporters on Kickstarter during October 2023, the AT THE MATCH project was led by designer Doug Cheeseman.

"AT THE MATCH is not some lament for how we used to live. It is, instead, a warm celebration of the places where football happens, and of who we are and what our game is now. It explains why we remain besotted with this imperfect pursuit."

Daniel Gray

"Beautiful pictorial celebration of the game, the rituals, the highs, pies and lows. A reminder of the importance of the game at all levels"

Henry Winter

"Oh my, even more half decent than hoped. Devoured in one sitting, trying to guess each location before checking the oftentertaining text"

Simon Inglis

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